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CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 11, 1925

No. 7

Provincial Treasurer in His Budget Speech Presents Estimates for the Year 1925

Estimated Deficit Reduced to \$368,632.51, as Compared With Actual Deficit of \$620,841.42 in 1924—Net Shortage of \$545,711.81 Would Have Been Wiped Out but for Disallowance of Mineral Tax and the Delay in Payment of Federal Highways Grant—Increased Charges for Public Debt Main Item of Increased Expenditure—Reid Describes Policy of Economy

Staff Correspondence

EDMONTON, March 11.—In his budget speech in the Assembly today, R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, estimated the revenue and income account in 1925 at \$11,221,109.00 and the expenditure at \$11,589,741.51, leaving an estimated deficit of \$368,632.51. The actual deficit in 1924 was \$620,841.42. The estimated increase in expenditure in 1925 is \$462,272.96, and the estimated increase in revenue \$714,431.87. The greater part of the increased expenditure is made up by public debt charges which show a total increase of \$228,873.65.

SAVING ON ESTIMATE OF \$693,550 IN 1924

The Provincial Treasurer stated that had the Alberta Government been able to collect the Mineral Rights Tax, which the Federal Government disallowed, and had the Federal Highways Grant for work done in 1924 been received before the end of the financial year, the Province would have been able to wipe out the net shortage of \$545,711.81 in 1924, as these two items alone totalled \$640,000. There had been a saving on the estimates, he said, of \$693,550, every branch of the Provincial expenditure showing a reduction on the estimates, except the item of Miscellaneous Refunds, which proved to be larger than anticipated. Included in Miscellaneous Refunds was the amount collected up to the time when the Mineral Rights Tax Act was disallowed, this amount having to be refunded.

CONSISTENT POLICY OF ECONOMY SINCE 1921

Since the year 1922, the first year of the U. F. A. Government, said Mr. Reid, the Government had observed a consistent policy of economy. In the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, all the spending departments made savings on the estimates, with the exception of the one item of public debt in 1923 and the Miscellaneous Refunds in 1924, which were, practically,

THE BUDGET IN BRIEF—COMPARATIVE ESTIMATES

	Actual Expenditure in 1924	Estimated Expenditure for 1925	Actual Revenue in 1924	Estimated Revenue for 1925
Dominion Subsidy			1,674,435.00	1,674,435.00
School Lands			588,691.73	600,000.00
Public Debt	\$3,802,171.87	\$4,031,045.52		
Executive Council	249,382.33	248,715.00	200,907.46	229,873.00
Legislation	188,054.77	190,480.00	1,703.00	2,015.00
Dept. of Agriculture	549,886.50	653,460.84	322,590.88	323,400.00
Atty-Gen'l's Dept.	1,456,079.45	1,508,184.50	2,427,504.45	2,836,250.00
Dept. of Education	2,008,504.24	2,091,705.00	190,956.35	174,100.00
Municipal Affairs	220,658.97	267,440.00	2,375,229.24	2,328,300.00
Provincial Secretary	54,592.55	52,175.00	2,160,961.21	2,201,835.00
Dept. Public Health	807,575.03	868,025.00	114,586.35	119,005.00
Dept. Pub. Works	1,483,686.30	1,353,494.65	95,104.52	365,300.00
Dept. Railways and Telephones—				
Railways Branch	33,283.70	34,710.00	1,485.89	1,500.00
Dept. Prov. Treas.	273,592.84	290,306.00	352,471.05	365,096.00
Totals	\$11,127,468.55	\$11,589,741.51	\$10,506,627.13	\$11,221,109.00

not controllable expenditures.

The Provincial Treasurer presented a statement analyzing the expenditures of the Province since its formation in 1905. Expenditures were classified under three heads—uncontrollable, which represented charges on public debt; semi-controllable, representing expenditures on courts of justice, jails and other Provincial institutions such as the mental hospital at Ponoka, and all special allowances; and controllable expenditure. All three of these classes of expenditure showed a consistent upward tendency up to the year 1922, when there began a downward trend in uncontrollable expenditure and a steady upward trend in controllable expenditure.

ward trend in controllable expenditure, a steady upward trend in continuing.



HON. R. G. REID

Mr. Reid made the very striking announcement that in the three years during which they had been in office, the U. F. A. Government had effected a saving in controllable and semi-controllable expenditure of \$1,171,864.14, which constituted an actual saving in the cost of government. He declared that it was the full intention of the Government to continue this policy of economy.

SAVINGS WITHOUT SACRIFICING EFFICIENCY

In illustration of the practical application of this policy, the Minister cited a number of significant items. By the institution of the control of purchases there was saved in 1924 the sum of \$25,000, while in the same year there was a reduction in the expenditure of the branch of the King's Printer, of \$43,396.01 as compared with the expenditure of 1923; \$83,512.54 as compared with 1922 and \$153,351 as compared with 1921. All these savings were effected without any sacrifice of efficiency in the branches of the civil

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EDITORIAL

CIVIC AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

Does the field of Provincial affairs call for lower standards of political honesty than that of municipal affairs? Under the party system, apparently, it does. A public man who has gained a high reputation for non-partizanship and sincerity in the field of municipal affairs, when he enters the Provincial Legislature believes, at least in some important instances, that he is called upon to descend to an inferior standard. Municipal affairs are serious business. The Provincial Assembly is regarded, not as a more dignified sphere of public service, but as an arena in which the chief consideration is the scoring of points in a game, in a manner which no business man would think of adopting in his own business, or in a civic position.

Service in the Legislative Assembly, it might be supposed, should call for higher qualities than private business or even civic business. That among party politicians it calls for lower standards is due entirely to the traditions of partyism, its inherent insincerity and the absurd idea that Provincial business cannot be carried on without an "official opposition."

The Legislature will gain in popular esteem in the exact degree in which this antiquated system is discarded. Until party politicians are replaced by men of independent outlook, by the election of a greater body of men from the cities who decline to associate themselves with the old forms of party politics, the frittering away of time in the Legislature on trivialities, to the neglect of public business, is bound to continue. It is time that the standards of political life in the Legislature were raised to at least as high a level as the prevailing standards in the field of dignified municipal service.

* * *

In Alberta politics there is no practical difference between the Liberal and Conservative parties, except that the sole member of the Legislature who sits, nominally, as an Independent Conservative, is incomparably more progressive in outlook than the official Liberal party. He has also refused, hitherto, to insult the intelligence of the public by engaging in insincere political manoeuvres, or uttering insincere political claptrap on the floor of the Assembly. Dr. Stewart's views as expressed in the corridors are exactly the same as the views he expresses in the Legislature.

Party labels and party names have ceased to have any meaning. Dr. Stewart's party is quite as reactionary as the Liberal party, and in spite of a sentimental attachment to tradition he has been in the Legislative Assembly far too good an Independent to be regarded as a representative Conservative.

* * *

A NEWSPAPER VENTURE IN FRENZIED FINANCE

By assuming that the difference between cash in the bank at the beginning of the year and cash in the bank at the end of the year represented a deficit, the Edmonton Bulletin, in an editorial on the public accounts of Alberta, arrived at the

startling conclusion that there was a "deficit on capital account" in 1924, to be added to the actual deficit of \$620,-841.42 as shown in the accounts. By an ingenious juggling with figures, the Bulletin arrived at the still more amazing discovery that the grand total of the expenditure for the year was \$33,000,000, which was labelled "controllable expenditure."

Both statements were entirely and hopelessly wrong. If the difference between cash in hand at the beginning of the year and the end represented a deficit, any Government could show a surplus by borrowing several millions of dollars at the end of the financial year.

The facts were, of course, as shown in the accounts which no authority on elementary bookkeeping is likely to challenge. Expenditure on income account was \$11,127,486.55, of which, as the statements published in this issue of "The U. F. A." show, debt charges absorbed 34.2 per cent.; semi-controllable expenditure 33.5 per cent.; and controllable expenditure 32.3 per cent.

We call attention to this case of misrepresentation because, so long as even a small section of the public remains dependent for "information" upon public affairs on newspaper comment of so completely unreliable a character as that of the Bulletin in the editorial referred to, public discussion of public affairs must be carried on under a serious handicap.

The public accounts have never been so clearly presented as they are today. There is no excuse for any newspaper which has direct access to them, to lack an adequate understanding of Alberta's financial position.

* * *

One of the briefest, and at the same time an admirable speech in the debate on the address, was delivered in the Assembly last week by Mr. St. Arnaud, the member for St. Albert. Mr. St. Arnaud's intervention was provoked by a purely partizan statement on the Grouard by-election. In reply he made no attempt to retaliate in kind but carried conviction by a moderate, well-balanced speech, non-controversial in tone.

* * *

In the current issue Mr. Warner describes the action taken by the Dominion Parliament, on the initiative of William Irvine, M.P., to revise the present rules of procedure, which were designed for the two-party system and in many respects fail to meet the modern needs. During the present week the Alberta Legislature has adopted a resolution calling for revision of the rules. In Alberta the two-party system has become an anachronism, and insofar as the forms of the system still remain, makes for legislative inefficiency.

* * *

The humor of the scene in the Legislature last week, as members of the Liberal party rose from their places in turn, to answer or evade Brownlee's disconcerting questions on the recent Liberal convention, was fully appreciated in the Assembly. The Attorney-General quoted the Liberals against themselves, beginning with the leader of the party, upon almost every question which they had introduced into the debate. He discussed in particular their record in the field of "economy." Mr. Brownlee told the story of Ole Olsen, a railroad employee who had been taking lessons in economy, and had been warned in particular to be mighty economical in the use of his oil and waste. When asked in an examination to say what he would do if he were driving a freight engine and on coming around a curve he were confronted with a passenger locomotive travelling at high speed in his direction on the same track, he replied without hesitation, "I'd grab that oil and that waste and yump." If there had been any place to jump to, that is just what a number of

(Continued on page 11)

Party Amendment Defeated by 42-11, Labor, Independent and Conservative Members Voting with U.F.A. in First Important Division of Session.

Liberals Differ in Interpretation of Meaning of Their Amendment, Bowen Stating It Is Intended as "Vote of Want of Confidence" for Purpose of Turning U. F. A. Government Out—
Stewart Condemns "Political Vote-Catching Trick"—Important Resolution on Freight Rates Adopted by Assembly

Staff Correspondence

Henry Wants "Business Men's Government"

Perren Baker Contrasts Liberal Demands for New Expenditure With Cry for "Economy"—MacLachlan on Necessity for More Efficient Legislative System

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 2.—Describing the Liberal party amendment as "a sincere effort to place the Government in an awkward position before the electorate," Perren Baker, Minister of Education, in the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne today, traced the record of the Liberals who with one exception opposed the proposal to reduce indemnities at a former session, and called attention to the fact that the Pelton resolution, at the recent Liberal convention, also met with short shrift. George MacLachlan, U. F. A. member for Pembina, dwelt on the railway needs of his constituency, and in appealing for the ending of the time-wasting political humbug which party politics encourages, quoted George W. Russell, one of the founders of the Irish Agricultural Co-operative movement, in support of the plan of economic group organization as the way out of the morass of legislative inefficiency. W. T. Henry, Edmonton (Liberal), Lorne Proudfoot, U. F. A. member for Acadia, Mrs. Nellie McClung, Edmonton (Liberal), and G. W. Smith, Red Deer (U. F. A.), were other speakers of the day.

Referring to the payment of 35 cents a bushel which had just been announced by the Inter-Provincial Wheat Pools, Mr. Proudfoot commended the splendid spirit which had made possible the successful launching of co-operative marketing enterprises. He spoke of the need for reduction in freight rates, and of the tariff, pointing out that 25 per cent. of the farmers' expenditure was devoted to paying tariff duties.

POWER POSSIBILITIES IN COAL

Dealing with industrial development, he said that in Ontario, Henry Ford had found it cheaper to bring coal from Nova Scotia, and use it in powdered form for power purposes, than to use Hydro-electric Power bought from the Ontario Commission. Mr. Ford had spent two and a half million dollars in experiments in order to develop this cheap power, which was cheap mainly because valuable by-products were produced which paid in full the cost of

The vote on the amendment to the address was concluded on Thursday, March 5th, after eleven days had been spent in debate. Apart from the speakers on the Liberal benches, some of whom interpreted their amendment as a vote of lack of confidence in the Government, while others declared it was not intended as a no-confidence vote, this amendment was condemned as an opportunist manoeuvre in all quarters of the Assembly.

The way has now been cleared for the legislative business of the session.

An important resolution on the subject of freight rates, in effect calling for the maintenance of the Crow's Nest maximum rates, without discrimination, and urging reduction of freight rates by the Western route, was adopted on motion of V. W. Smith.

power production. Mr. Proudfoot thought that investigation might well show the desirability of establishing a number of central power plants in Alberta at which large piles of slack now going to waste could be used. If several plants were established in the coal centres, the heavy cost of long transmission lines would be eliminated.

This matter, said the member, might have an important bearing on the Spray Lakes power question, since the use of coal for power generation would employ more labor than the water power scheme. At Spray Lakes, an investment of \$15,000,000 would include interest charges of \$750,000, none of which would go to Alberta labor.

W. T. Henry, Edmonton (Liberal), commended Premier Greenfield's speech at Ottawa in which he spoke of the need for a united Canada. The problem of the West was over development. Every other Western Province had reduced expenditures, said the member, and Premier Dunning's budget speech in Saskatchewan showed that taxation was lower in that Province than in any other in the West. There were no gasoline, amusement or income taxes.

THE RECORD OF A "BUSINESS MEN'S GOVERNMENT"

Going on to advise the Premier to include in the cabinet "one or two business men", Mr. Henry was interrupted by Mr. Greenfield, who asked whether the member considered that those who followed agriculture could not be business men?

"We had what Mr. Henry calls a business Government before 1921," declared the Premier, "and see what a mess they left us in!"

During the first week of the debate some Liberal speakers sought to show

that the Government dominated the U.F.A. Convention and others to prove that the U.F.A. Convention bullied the Government. Mr. Henry followed the latter theme, and condemned the resolution in which the U.F.A. principles were declared. He went on to discuss the Edmonton by-election, expressing disapproval of Government ownership of the means of production, and its supporters in Canada, and proceeded to laud the Labor Government in England.

"Does not the Labor party in England support government ownership of the means of production?" asked Mr. Christophers, to which Mr. Henry replied, "I think not."

"Yes, they do," retorted the Labor member.

The Edmonton member denounced what he described as "group government," declaring that it had been tried in Italy, and that it had produced a Mussolini to clean up the mess. He objected to the principle of proportional representation, which, he said, was unsound. On the first count in the Edmonton by-election he had a majority of 400, and this was reduced to 28 on the final count. The first move of Mussolini had been to discard proportional representation.

Mr. Henry did not think the Province was in a position at this time to launch out upon so ambitious a project as the Spray Lakes scheme; better leave it to a private company. He thought power from coal would prove as cheap as hydro-electric, and there was another possibility in the gas fields. He hoped for a satisfactory adjustment of the freight rates question, and that Premier Greenfield would protect the interests of the Province, and seek to eliminate discrimination. He would support any Government proposition for the reduction of taxation, and would vote for the opposition amendment to reduce members' indemnities.

CANNOT HAVE IT BOTH WAYS, SAYS MACLACHLAN

Rallying the Liberals on the inconsistencies revealed in their attack on the U.F.A. plan of political action, George MacLachlan, Pembina (U. F. A.), pointed out that while Messrs. Mitchell and Dechene had contended that the elected members were not supposed to be capable of exercising any personal judgment whatsoever, but were subjected to rigid control upon any and every question that might arise at any time, Mr. Tobin, on the other hand had sought to show that the U.F.A. Convention was under the thumb of the elected members. It was impossible, Mr. Mac-

Lachlan pointed out, to have it both ways.

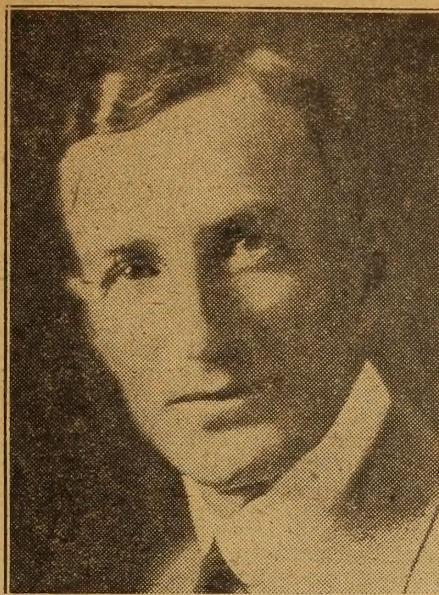
Going on to explain what the plan of group organization and representation really meant, the member for Pembina said that only two classes of persons were today opposed to its adoption—those who did not understand it, and those who were in a privileged position and would lose their special privileges under a system of genuine political and economic democracy. The members of the Assembly who had spoken in condemnation of the group system had evidently very little conception of what it meant.

In support of his contention that present political methods are proving inefficient, Mr. MacLachlan quoted from a booklet recently issued by the Edmonton Journal, under the title "A Canada Forward Policy." This pamphlet set forth that the freeing of government from "political management and all that follows in its train," and the placing in control of governmental affairs of "men who are qualified by capacity, training and experience to organize and conduct," was a fundamental need of the Dominion. Some such plan was essential, said the Journal, to place the affairs of Canada upon a sound basis. The old methods, said the Journal, might "be said to be entirely responsible for our want of progress."

IRISH CO-OPERATIVE LEADER ON GROUP REPRESENTATION

The need for economic group representation, as a means of eliminating wasteful and superficial political methods, was recognized, not only by the U.F.A., but by eminent men in various walks of life who had given their attention to the subject. In support of this contention he quoted George W. Russell, who, with Sir Horace Plunkett, was the founder of the Irish co-operative movement and creator of the Irish Co-operative Organization Society, which, like the U.F.A., took as its motto "Better Farming, Better Business, Better Living." Mr. Russell had never been a politician, but he had through economic and educational work, done more than all the politicians to restore the country's economic life. While his people were engaged in factional political squabbles, he had proceeded, unostentatiously but thoroughly, to organize the farmers on the basis of sound economic enterprise. And he had come to exactly the same conclusion as the U.F.A. upon the necessity of economic group representation in parliament.

The new Irish constitution, Mr. Russell had pointed out, gave power to set up, when the people desired it, a second chamber elected on an economic group basis. It gave the people the right, whenever they became alive to its necessity, to set up, by this means, a second chamber "directly representative of the economic life of the country." The failure of the Irish to take advantage of this provision in their constitution was due to the hostility of the politicians now in control—politicians who knew how to sway an audience, knew how to play upon passion or prejudice, but had little capacity for constructive work. These politicians, Mr. Russell had stated, knew their jobs would be in danger if ever the economic plan were adopted. They knew that their present privileged position would vanish, their right to mismanage the Irish political affairs would soon end.



HON. PERREN BAKER

"WAY OUT FROM POLITICAL INEPTITUDE"

Mr. Russell realized, to quote his own words, that "the politicians naturally would be disinclined to set up a representative body, over which, in the nature of things, they could scarcely hope to exercise control." He also believed that if the Irish people ever became sufficiently alive to their own best interest to demand that the new "house of industry" should be set up, in which such organizations as the Irish farmers' co-operative associations would be directly represented, together with the various other industries, they would find through this channel "a way out from political ineptitude and blockade."

Once the house of representatives of economic groups was established, it would soon overshadow in importance the other house, because the producers' organizations would naturally choose their best men—men who had proved themselves by years of efficient service of a constructive sort. By sheer weight of the superiority of its personnel, and freedom from the common vices of "politics" as understood by the old fashioned politicians, the new house of industry would soon become the most authoritative body in the country. If it were not set up, Mr. Russell believed that the Irish people would in the near future be "looking for an Irish Mussolini to clean up the mess of democracy."

"BREAK THROUGH THE HUSKS OF PRECEDENT"

In view of the weight of evidence in support of the new plan of political organization, Mr. MacLachlan continued, the time had come when the people of Canada should "break through the husks of precedent," and insist upon the adoption of the new plan, now so generally approved in principle by thinking men.

Mr. MacLachlan expressed the opinion that the lease of the E. D. & B. C. Railway, which will expire in July of this year, should not be renewed unless a much better bargain could be made with the company. The Province gained no benefit under the terms of the present lease, unless there was a surplus over operating expenses, and although the line did in fact prove very profitable

as a feeder for the C.P.R. system, no direct surplus had as yet been shown. The company would never make ends meet on this line, though they profited indirectly, and it was therefore desirable for the Province itself to see whether it could not make the line pay under direct Provincial management.

The member for Pembina briefly discussed the Municipal Districts Act, the taxes on abandoned Soldiers' Settlement Board lands, the Municipal Hospitals Act, school grants, and the railway problem of the Province as a whole. He called attention to the necessity for improved railway facilities in his constituency and for the development of a Pacific outlet, and urged that no district should seek one hundred per cent. service before other districts had fifty per cent. service. He was definitely opposed to "pork barrel politics."

Mrs. McClung, Edmonton (Liberal), expressed herself as in favor of the amendment, and called attention to the fact that she had previously voted for a reduction in indemnities, when it was brought to her attention that school grants must be reduced and also the number of inspectors, and that mothers' allowances must be curtailed.

NEW ROADS PLAN VERY POPULAR

Referring to the suggestion made by a Liberal member that Provincial politics had been introduced into municipal affairs, G. W. Smith, Red Deer (U.F.A.), said that in his district there had never been any such occurrence. Mr. Smith said the new system of apportioning money on highways and market roads was a great improvement on the old, and was becoming very popular. Results were being obtained for money expended, and at last the Province was getting some good roads built. Suitable machinery was now being used and suitable oversight provided.

Mr. Smith approved of Mr. Pearson's views on the personal covenant in mortgages, and declared that the limitation of the covenant was very bad legislation. To have made this legislation retroactive was to observe a vicious principle. "Certain adventurers got this legislation passed to save their hides," said Mr. Smith.

The member for Red Deer said he was not much concerned as to who should receive the credit for the Wheat Pool so long as it proved a success, as it was doing. He cited the very successful efforts made in the Red Deer district to establish co-operative marketing of livestock in the face of strong drover opposition and stated that the cost of marketing hogs had been reduced from \$1.25 a hundredweight to 60 cents. The first year's business totalled \$50,000, and in 1924 the total was \$450,000. Mr. Smith gave a number of illustrations of the great success achieved in marketing cattle and eggs.

PLEA FOR ECONOMY THREE YEARS OUT OF DATE

Perren Baker, Minister of Education, in humorous vein contrasted the demands of the Liberals for "economy", in general, with their individual demands for increased expenditure. The member for Beaver River, for example, wanted a large sum of money spent on railway extensions, costing many millions of dollars. Mr. Tobin wanted economy, but also demanded the rapid completion of a railway at great expense, and wanted a school inspector

for Leduc. Mr. Henry had talked of making a "beginning" in economy. Well, the present Government, between 1921 and 1923 had reduced controllable expenditure by over \$900,000. The beginning had been made in 1921, and Mr. Henry's plea was a little belated. There were today 500 fewer employees in the civil service and in the telephone department than formerly, and the service was more efficient. Mr. McLennan, of Edmonton, had said that it was an extravagance to have the normal school at Camrose, and it should be in Edmonton. "Well," said Mr. Baker, "I did not put the Normal School at Camrose, a 'business administration' put it there."

"Let us have a 'business administration,'" said the Minister, "and we'll have a railroad in Leduc, a railroad in Beaver River, a Normal School at Edmonton, an inspector in Leduc and higher grants to schools, all from a group of members who are demanding the drastic curtailment of expenditure."

"Amendments like these," said he, "tend to destroy confidence in governments and in our principle of government. If I were at Ottawa I would not seek to embarrass Mr. King by attempting to undermine confidence in this insincere fashion."

The Minister went on to discuss the work of his department. There were at present in the University of Alberta, he said, eighty-three instructors and others who gave part of their time and received some remuneration. Students totalled 1341, including 738 in arts, 117 in applied science, 200 in medicine, 109 in law, 158 in agriculture, 46 in pharmacy. There were 953 in the regular courses in the undergraduate body.

It had been said that many students wasted their time. Well, they might at times appear frivolous to "sober, grey heads like ours," and yet be putting their time to very good use. There was in the University a student governing body. In 1923-24, a total of 38 of the freshmen class were advised to leave, and 15 required to withdraw.

In that year a class in psychology had been established in Edmonton, and an instructor was now going to Calgary every week to take a similar class. The department of extension was doing good work. The agricultural department had sent exhibits to compete at the fairs at Toronto, Ottawa and Chicago, and captured a large number of prizes for Alberta bred and fed animals.

RESEARCH WORK AT UNIVERSITY

Mr. Baker said the research work formed a very important feature of the University activities, and the discoveries made by Dr. Collip, through research made possible by the Rockefeller grant of \$5,000, had been of very high value. The Calgary institute of technology and art showed rapid progress, and had 939 persons taking correspondence courses. These courses were free at the expense of the Province, and members should keep the matter in mind in going through their constituencies.

At the Normal schools about 700 teachers were trained, and the supply was now just about adequate to meet requirements. There had been slight decrease in the number of pupils enrolled in the schools. All told there were 5,777 teachers, and the rooms totalled 4,742. Regularity in attendance was improving, and there was a general advancement in standards. The percentage of pupils in the eighth grade was higher

than formerly, and also the percentage in the high schools.

IMPROVEMENT IN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

The average period of operation of schools was slightly higher, being 184.7 days. Simplification of the high school course had been brought about. The new Ontario course was almost the same as the Alberta curriculum, with the same classification as to fundamental and secondary subjects.

Mr. Baker said that the average salary of rural teachers was \$1046, and of all teachers \$1186. More than 100 schools operated for fewer than 100 days, and more than 40,000 pupils attended for less than 100 days last year.

The system of financing rural education was not very satisfactory. Mill rates varied greatly, and the assessment in some districts was \$10,000 and in others \$400,000. The poorer districts were unable to carry on, or secured only a short period of operation, while the schools which were able to finance themselves gained the full Government grant. By special grants these poorer districts last year were enabled to continue, and in few districts was it not possible to give six months' schooling.

"These people in the outlying districts are the pioneer people of Alberta, and should be looked after," said the Minister.

Brownlee Delivers Vigorous Attack on Government Critics

Shorter Catechism on Recent Liberal
Convention—What the Special Audit
Saved Province—Maiden Speech of
L. A. Giroux Well Received

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 3.—Replying to the statement of T. C. Milnes that \$41,000 spent by the Government on the Provincial audit undertaken in 1921 was an extravagant amount, J. E. Brownlee, Attorney General, stated in the debate on the address today that the audit, by revealing a loss in the Liquor Branch which was subsequently made good by collection, saved the Province \$10,000 in one lump sum, and that another direct result of the special audit was a reduction by \$20,000 of the cost of the annual Provincial audit; this saving of \$20,000 being repeated from year to year.

In a speech of two and a half hours' duration, Mr. Brownlee made a counter-attack upon the critics of the Government. Spectators in the gallery looked on with unconcealed amusement as the Attorney General subjected the protesting Liberal members of the Assembly to a kind of shorter catechism upon their record at the recent Liberal convention, when a resolution calling for a reduction in sessional indemnities was submitted by Mr. Pelton of Edmonton and was heavily defeated. C. R. Mitchell, who was the first to be questioned, replied after some hesitation that he himself unfortunately was not present when the vote was taken. The Liberal leader then looked on without effective intervention while in the debate his colleagues were in turn subjected to a similar questionnaire. S. G. Tobin, when asked to state his position, did not indicate his stand on the Pelton resolution, but asserted that he "supported the Liberal platform". L. A. Giroux

made no reply. As various other members rose from their places when called upon, only one, R. C. Marshall, could state that he had voted for the rejected resolution, while Mr. Marshall would not say that he had spoken in favor of it. He protested against this continued "cross-examination" of himself and his colleagues. The Liberal leader listened, for the most part, in subdued silence to the further proceedings and to the recounting by the Attorney General of various incidents at the Liberal convention in Calgary, including the rejection of a resolution calling for the restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement.

WHITE SET STANDARD TO BE EMULATED

After paying a tribute to the members of the Legislature who have been removed by death, and congratulating those who had been promoted, Mr. Brownlee made reference to the speech of F. J. White, Labor member for Calgary, declaring that Mr. White "had set a standard of fair and constructive criticism which may well be emulated by those not associated with us in this Assembly."

Suggesting to the occupants of the Liberal benches that it would be unfair to blame their organizer for the conditions which seemed to prevail in the ranks of the party, the Attorney General recalled the story of the Irish veterinarian whose skill had made him so famous throughout his country that he was called upon to try to restore some horses that had been killed in an explosion. By taking a hoof here and a leg there he had finally succeeded in building up a fairly good horse. He selected a very fine head, but made the mistake of putting it where the tail should go, and then, the ballad went on to say:

"There, there was the devil to pay,
Though his head pointed right, he
still went astray,
For his feet were all going the opposite
way."

"If that is the condition of the Liberal party," said Mr. Brownlee, "they should blame, not their organizer, but the interference that has come from the outside, and I only wish for the official organizer that he had another occupation in life than that of official 'sandwichman' of the Liberal party of this Province."

Mr. Dechene had made reference to the differences between the U.F.A. and the Liberal party. "There is certainly one difference that I can readily point out to him," declared the Attorney General, "and that is that the U.F.A. has no Provincial sandwichman going up and down the length and breadth of the Province telling people that we believe in party organization, and the campaign fund."

ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO PARTY PLATFORMS

The attempted rejuvenation of the Liberal party had been watched with considerable interest. Having seen the platform adopted by the Liberals, members of the U.F.A. had been somewhat disappointed, for, said the Minister, "I have read that platform very carefully and have gone back and read the Conservative platform, and there is only one thing in which the Liberal Convention at Calgary did not follow the Conservative convention. The difference consisted in the omission of Clause One of the Conservative platform, which

read, "That the serious financial condition of the Province and the resultant burdensome taxation are the direct result of ill-advised policies and reckless expenditures of the Liberal administration since 1910." The actual platforms are identical."

Examining the inaugural speech delivered by the new Liberal leader, Mr. Brownlee said he had looked in vain for some new declaration of policy. Mr. Mitchell's first criticism had been that the correspondence on Natural Resources had not been tabled before three days of the session had passed. Most of the time spent in discussing the question had been devoted to fulsome praise of the Dominion Government. The Alberta Government were informed that they should have known that settlement was needed on the Lethbridge Northern irrigation project before the work was concluded. "Why," asked Mr. Brownlee, "did not the former administration think of this before pledging the credit of the Province as they did?"

"TIME TO RETALIATE" ON THE FARMERS

Mr. Mitchell's speech had contained no word on the problem of marketing of agricultural products, no word of commendation of the Premier for his work of relief of the farmers from the burdens that were threatening to drive them from the land, and no reference was made to the great problem of the drought areas. Perhaps the reason for this lay in the following paragraph from the record of the recent Liberal Convention:

"A resolution calling upon the Government to use every reasonable effort to remove farmers from the drought districts to irrigation districts was laid on the table, having been vigorously opposed on the ground that these farmers have already had considerable Government aid and others, without aid, had made a living in the same districts. Dr. Galbraith, the mover of the resolution, defended it, saying that the Government had guaranteed the expense of the irrigation and was sending over to Europe to get immigrants to settle these lands, while there were good settlers right near home in the drought districts. But the resolution was tabled. A. S. Shandro, speaking to this resolution, reminded the Convention that the former Government had given aid to these people, and then when the election came on they had joined forces with the Farmer Government to defeat the friends that had given them a helping hand. 'I believe that the time has come for us to retaliate for this treatment,' said Mr. Shandro."

REFUSED TO TAKE STAND ON CROW AGREEMENT

Reading farther down the record of the Liberal Convention, Mr. Brownlee showed that James Short, of Calgary, had sought to introduce a resolution deploring the action of the Railway Commissioners in setting aside the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, and urging its restoration, but that "the Convention refused to permit the resolution to be admitted for discussion, S. G. Tobin declaring that it referred to one section and not to the whole Province, and therefore it was unwise to introduce controversial matter."

Yet, said Mr. Brownlee, Mr. Tobin had criticised the U.F.A. Government be-



HON. J. E. BROWNLEE

cause, he said, it was not interested in railway rates. Here, at the Liberal Convention, "was a party that is appealing for the support of the people, and, on a question that may mean hundreds of thousands of dollars to the farmers of this country, it refused to take a stand because the matter was considered 'controversial.'"

Going on to deal with the amendment to the address, the Attorney General read from authorities on parliamentary practice, to the effect that such amendments were used, first as votes of want of confidence, and secondly for the purpose of enunciating some great principle of political importance.

Mr. Marshall had contended that the amendment was not a vote of want of confidence, and had invoked the Moore-Love resolution. Yet, Mr. Brownlee said, he had pointed out when that resolution was discussed that it merely put into exact words what had been parliamentary practice for years. The Assembly could not interfere with the discretion of the Government itself in deciding when it had lost the confidence of the Assembly. There could be no question as to what the Lieutenant-Governor would do if this amendment carried. "That amendment," said the Minister, "is undoubtedly a vote of want of confidence."

Dealing with the subject of the amendment from the standpoint of "economy," Mr. Brownlee said that, on the basis of a \$200 cut in indemnities, the saving it would effect would be .0018 of 1 per cent., or eighteen-thousandths of the total expenditure. It was impossible to vote for a motion for a cut which did not specify the amount of the cut.

After pointing out that Mr. Davidson's resolution two sessions ago had received scant support, Mrs. McClung being the only other member voting for it, Mr. Brownlee called attention to the resolution moved at the Liberal convention held a few months ago, by Mr. Pelton, of Edmonton. This resolution, calling for a cut in the indemnity and in Ministers' salaries, found a seconder, and twenty votes, and Mr. Pelton himself, following the convention, announced that, "This one thing means that the Liberal party considers the sessional indemnity of the Provincial members of the Legislature none too high at present,

that they consider the Cabinet Ministers are not paid any too much at present."

LIBERAL LEADER "WAS NOT PRESENT"

"I would ask the leader of the opposition whether he supported the Pelton resolution," said Mr. Brownlee.

"Unfortunately," declared Mr. Mitchell, amid laughter, "I was not present."

Mr. Brownlee then directed himself to Mr. Tobin, asking whether he had supported the Pelton resolution. Mr. Tobin, rising with some hesitancy, answered that he "supported the Liberal platform." Mr. Marshall protested against the searching "cross-examination" to which, he considered, himself and his colleagues were being subjected, but Mr. Mitchell rested content, and, for the rest, left his followers to do battle with the Attorney General for the most part without his active aid. Mr. Marshall said he had voted for the Pelton resolution, but would not say that he had spoken in favor of it, while George Mills declared that he would deal with the matter in a speech to follow. Mr. Giroux, when his turn for examination came, did not answer. Mr. Dechene made an indefinite response to the questioning, when his turn came, but Mr. Henry asserted that he "had won his election on that platform."

It was strange, then, replied Mr. Brownlee, that Mr. Henry should have beaten Mr. Pelton, the originator of the platform, in the recent by-election.

"Will the Minister accept our vote on this amendment as the answer?" asked Mr. Marshall.

"No," was the reply, "for no person can vote on this amendment intelligently."

INCREASED EXPENDITURE MILLION DOLLARS IN 1921

Mr. Brownlee was amused that the demand for a general cutting down of all expenditure should come from the Liberal leader, because, in a speech in 1920, Mr. Mitchell had said he "could see no present hope of cutting down any services," and in 1921, after admitting that expenditure could not be cut down, proved his statement by increasing expenditure by two million dollars. "That," said the Attorney General, "is the record of the gentleman who, after standing with a white flag in his hand, and declaring himself helpless, now comes to the people of this Province to declare that if they will only return him to office he will balance the budget."

Mr. Marshall: "You bet we will!"

Mr. Brownlee:

"For frantic boast and foolish word,
Thy mercy on Thy people, Lord."

"Speaking generally," continued Mr. Brownlee, "I do not believe that the people of this Province want us to do anything unless it is right, and when it comes to a question of reduction of indemnities and salaries I will take my stand, but right at the present moment I want to utter a strong word of warning that from my experience I have come to the conclusion that one of the perils of democracy today is cheap labor and cheap employment."

PRIVILEGED CLASSES AND WORKING PEOPLE

"In England there was a class that looked upon it as their particular privilege to rule, and from that you have the idea that magistrates and justices of the peace and members of the Legis-

lature should serve without salary. One of the great problems that this department has to face is that we cannot get men who are competent to do that work. The great majority of our people are working men and women; they are earning their daily bread. They are prepared to do their share, but we find to-day that they are saying, 'Pay us what it is worth.' I am working on that problem today, studying and rearranging magistrates so that we can put them in the field and pay them what they are worth.

WILL GET EXACTLY WHAT THEY PAY FOR

"With regard to the sessional indemnity, the people of this Province are going to get just exactly what they pay for. I don't care what the people may say, I find that the people of Alberta are kindly disposed to any man who honestly tells them what he thinks. Well, if they make it \$1200, they will get that much service; if they make it \$1400 they will get that much service; if they make it \$2000 they will get what they pay for, and one of the reasons why we do not have better men and women in politics today is that men and women who are adapted for this work cannot afford to give up their daily employment because it does not pay them to do so."

Mr. Brownlee said that if he had his way about it he would get for the administration of public affairs the very best men available, and pay them accordingly. It was a most fortunate thing for Canada that the Dominion Government had courage enough to get Sir Henry Thornton and pay him what he was worth.

Mr. Marshall asked why there had been a cut in the salaries in the civil service, to which Mr. Brownlee replied that he would deal with this matter when the occasion arose in the Assembly.

Dealing with Mr. Milnes' criticism of the previous week, the Attorney General referred to the cost of the public audit—\$41,000—and said that a definite contract had been made with this firm, that the average total sustenance charged up was no more than \$4.37 a day. If the Government had known then as much as they knew now they might have been in a better position to make a flat contract, inclusive of all expenses.

But, against the cost of \$41,000 in 1921-22 was to be set an immediate direct saving of \$10,000 by the discovery of a loss in the accounts between the Liquor Branch and a firm of distillers, this money being duly collected. That reduced the cost to \$31,000. Then, there was inaugurated a system of accounting which had cut down the cost of audit from \$115,000 to \$95,000 a year, a saving of \$20,000 annually. When the Government came into office, in some cases succession duties had not been paid for ten years after they became due, owing to an imperfect filing system which had been changed by the new Government. In view of all these facts the audit had been, not an extravagance, but a very real economy. It was true economy to spend \$41,000 in a lump sum to save \$20,000 annually afterwards.

Discussing the Debt Adjustment Act, Mr. Brownlee said that for the \$15,000 charged to this account, which Mr. Milnes described as an extravagance,

work had been done to keep on their lands many farmers who would otherwise have been compelled to leave. In 1923 and 1924 alone, \$300,000 had been distributed for farmers who otherwise would have been unable to carry on.

Mr. Brownlee remarked that Mr. Henry, in his plea for "business administration", had undoubtedly demonstrated that he himself was a business man, and an admirable mayor of Edmonton, for had he not "given the Assembly a certificate to this effect, signed and sealed and delivered by himself?" Did he suggest that because he was the only mayor who had been able to reduce expenditure, he was the only business mayor Edmonton has had? Were not the bankruptcy laws of this country framed for "business men"?

FARMERS' BUSINESS ABILITY AND THE WHEAT POOL

"I suppose," the Attorney General added, "you read in the paper that a certain organization had recently declared an interim payment on wheat of 35 cents a bushel, amounting to \$25,000,000. When you get an organization paying that you can take it for granted that it is a large business concern. It is operated and carried on by farmers, and I think the farmers' organization can be congratulated on the business ability shown in organizing and carrying on this great enterprise. I do not take it for granted that because this Government consists of farmers it has no business ability."

Mr. Brownlee deprecated the suggestion made by the Liberals that "it was a good thing there was a Liberal Government in Ottawa," when the Natural Resources question was dealt with, for Liberal Governments in Alberta had received fair treatment when Conservative Governments were in office in the Dominion. The present Government did not think they had got for the Province all it was entitled to, but had accepted because it was better that the discussion should not be drawn out for an indefinite length of time. He was very hopeful that the transfer of the resources would shortly take place.

DANGER OF OVER-ESTIMATING VALUE OF RESOURCES

It was necessary to give warning against the danger of overestimating the immediate realizable value of the resources. They were revenue makers for the future, rather than the present, he said, pointing out that in 1922 oil and similar revenues cost \$1,366,000 to collect, although they totalled only \$995,000, while in 1923 a total of \$1,393,000 was spent in collecting \$960,000, and in the oil boom year of 1914 it cost \$2,128,000 to collect \$1,808,000.

Speaking on the Crow's Nest Pass rates, Mr. Brownlee said that a period of discrimination was anticipated, following the successful fight for the restoration of the rates, but it was necessary first to establish the statutory maximum, and then to see that the discrimination was removed. If the railways had succeeded in having the agreement abrogated, the next move would have been for a further increase of rates. While the importance of the Western route was recognized, it was nevertheless true that for many years to come a large part of the native crops and livestock must be shipped east.

Speaking of the successful fight for reduction of mountain rates, Mr. Brownlee said he did not care whether British Columbia were given all the credit or not, so long as the reduction was won. He saw great possibilities in the development of the Oriental trade. Nobody could read the report of the inquiry into the charges made by the Alberta Government through Mr. Van Allen without coming to the conclusion that practically every charge made contained truth. As a result of it practically every official of importance in the handling of grain was removed.

Mr. Brownlee said that in the effort to solve the problem of the northern railways, no one had worked harder than the Premier. It had been suggested that the railways should be sold, but that was more easily said than done.

MADE PLANS TO COLONIZE LETHBRIDGE NORTHERN

Referring to the Lethbridge Northern irrigation enterprise, he pointed out that the Liberals had financed the project to the extent of \$5,000,000 without having gone into the question of colonization. The Government was now obligated to spend \$5,000,000 annually until such time as the scheme would stand on its own feet. The services of Dr. Widlosie, who had been the vice-chairman of a Commission appointed by the Washington Government to inquire into the irrigation problems of the United States, had been engaged by the Alberta Government, who were hopeful of having his report at an early date.

HOW DOMINION DEALT WITH MINERAL TAX ACT

Dealing with the disallowance of the Mineral Tax Act by the Dominion Government, Mr. Brownlee read a telegram of January, 1924, to the Minister of Justice, stating that in view of the approaching session the Alberta Government would appreciate a decision. Long before this the reply of the Alberta Government to the petition for disallowance had been filed. A letter was received stating the petition was being considered. The Alberta Government had made provision in the estimates for \$400,000 as the yield from the tax. Yet the first intimation that the Federal law officers favored disallowance came in a newspaper report of April 10th. Premier Greenfield wired expressing his hope that the report was not well founded, as the decision was vital to all Provincial Governments, since it involved the question whether taxation measures within the jurisdiction of a Provincial Government were to be reviewed by the Federal Government. The Government got a reply which simply said that the Attorney General had already sent in his representations. Then the Alberta Legislature adjourned, and a few days later the Alberta Government were notified that the act was disallowed. "And we found, when we went to Ottawa," said Mr. Brownlee, "and checked up the report in the Department of Justice, that the only ground for disallowance was that the act conflicted with Dominion policies. Neither one of the companies which had petitioned against it had raised this objection. They put their case entirely on the ground that the act was confiscatory. The Department of Justice knew it was not well founded, and put their decision for disallowance on a ground that we had

never been allowed to answer, namely that it interfered with Dominion policy. Yet as long ago as 1869, Sir John A. Macdonald laid down the policy, which had been followed consistently since, that the proper course was to refer an act objected to on such grounds back to the Province before disallowance, and to give them a chance to be heard and to make any change in the act."

DID NOT RECEIVE TREATMENT TO WHICH ENTITLED

Mr. Brownlee further revealed the fact that the report of the Department of Justice advising disallowance was dated February 2nd, and had thus been ready about the time when the session of the Legislature opened. "Yet," he added, "this Assembly adjourned before we were given an intimation that the Act was disallowed. I wish to say that in my humble opinion we did not receive the consideration to which we were entitled. The Dominion Government had this matter before them for one year, and disallowed the act one day before the end."

With reference to the disallowance by the Privy Council in London of the Dominion Disputes Act, Mr. Brownlee suggested that there should be a conference between the Provinces and the Dominion to decide on a policy for the future. Provincial legislation might be found necessary.

TO REMEDY ONE DEFECT IN TAX RECOVERY ACT

Mr. Brownlee said that Mr. Reid had developed a new principle of Tax Recovery, on the theory that the land first goes to the municipality, and that the municipality would probably take a more kindly attitude towards the owner, and be more lenient than speculators who formerly could come into the Province and buy at tax sales. Some unfortunate cases had arisen, due to one defect only in the new act, and this defect would be removed at the present session. In principle the new act was sounder than any other in force in Canada. It gave the owner three months longer to recover his land than the old act did. It had been suggested that the land should be forfeited to the crown instead of to the municipality, so that the crown could say, "It is true you have lost your land, but if you are making an honest effort to work out your problem we will give you a certain number of years in which to do so."

In closing Mr. Brownlee touched upon the great problem of Government, which he believed to be the encouragement of the people in the practice of doing things for themselves. "We in Canada today," he said, "both in Alberta and elsewhere, are being troubled by a confusion of voices." He believed that when the history of Canada came to be written a hundred years from now, it would be found that while every country had its ups and downs, no country had struggled more heroically for existence than Canada. He deplored the fact that sectionalism had reared its head in some places. The greatest problem was to obtain greater co-operation between the Provinces, and a closer relationship between the Dominion and Provincial Governments.

There were those who said that all problems could be solved by dealing with the financial problem. While he believ-

ed that the interest rate was too high, Mr. Brownlee believed that if it were necessary to wait for fundamental financial reforms, the people would wander in the wilderness for another forty years. Others sought amendment of the bankruptcy laws, and something must be done here. Long term credits were recommended, and these, in their own sphere, would give some relief. All these things, however, must be correlated, and attention turned to the development of our resources both in minerals and in agriculture.

DON'T CARE WHO IS GIVEN THE CREDIT

Referring to the Wheat Pool, the Minister said that he believed he was interpreting the desire of those responsible when he said that they did not care who was given the credit for its success, but they did say that it should be kept out of politics in Alberta.

Mr. Brownlee commended the efforts made by Mr. Hoadley as Minister of Agriculture, to find new markets for Alberta products, and said he believed that in market possibilities in the Orient in particular, Alberta was "on the threshold of opportunity."

GIROUX'S MAIDEN SPEECH IS WELL RECEIVED

L. A. Giroux, Grouard (Liberal), made a decidedly good impression on the Assembly in a well-delivered maiden speech which brought a round of applause from the members, though an effort to drag the Wheat Pool into politics on the ground that members of this organization had also, in their capacity as members of the U. F. A., participated in electoral activities, was generally regretted.

Mr. Giroux dealt with the recent by-election in his opening remarks. He said that the leader of the U. F. A., who was also head of the Wheat Pool, the leader of the Government, and various U. F. A. members of the Legislature who were actively promoting new pooling enterprises, had spoken for the U. F. A. candidate in the Grouard campaign, and resented the fact that these U. F. A. members, being connected with co-operative marketing organizations, were also in politics. He read from the literature of the Farmers' Union of Canada in support of his claim that the organized farmers should not as an organization participate in political action, and remarked that Sapiro had begged the Pools to keep out of politics. He declared that in the Grouard by-election a deputy returning officer at Fahler had struck from the voters' list the names of some voters favorable to the Liberals and added the names of some others who favored the U. F. A., and complained that the returning officer had abolished a poll at Wabasca, and compelled voters to cross a lake to vote, while at St. Bruno voters had to go to Faust, to which there was no road.

Mr. Giroux dwelt on the need for railway development in the North, and for a Pacific outlet for the Peace River country and asked the Government to provide money for construction of a highway from Edmonton to McLennan. He advocated an aggressive immigration campaign, and called for the repeal of the Tax Recovery Act.

FORSTER ON ADJUSTMENT OF ELECTORAL INEQUALITIES

In a brief speech, G. A. Forster, Hand Hills (U. F. A.), analyzed the statistics

of population in the various Provincial constituencies, showing the need for the adjustment of present serious inequalities when redistribution takes place. He believed that equalization should precede any consideration of a cut in indemnities, but at the same time agreed that the difficult constituencies of the North should not be required to have as many people as constituencies which were more readily accessible to members visiting their constituencies.

Mr. Forster claimed that members resident in Edmonton were not entitled to receive as large remuneration as rural members. Edmonton members lived near the Legislature, in the heart of easily accessible constituencies, and need incur no extra expense to visit the Government departments either during or between sessions. The member created a diversion by referring to the bills for telephone service on members' passes, credited to the Telephone Department, but did not read the amount of these bills.

While dealing with the re-establishment in the drought area, Mr. Forster told the Assembly that these districts could not be entirely depopulated, that there were in them settlers who remained through the survival of the fittest, and through the nature of their holdings, improvements, and location, intended to stay in these districts. It was the duty of the Provincial and Dominion Governments to first give consideration to these citizens, along the following lines:

Amendment to the Bankruptcy Act, long term loans, consideration of cancellation of certain taxes, amendments to the Wild Lands Tax Act, the leasing of adjacent lands to the settlers for grazing purposes under suitable regulations, and last, but not least, protection against any large rancher or outsider securing leases for grazing purposes on these lands, which the settlers who will remain there were entitled to.

Mr. Forster said further that a policy is long past due for a new system of educational grants, on a basis of equality to every school in the Province, and trusted that at a very early date an announcement would be made by the Government along these lines, to give relief to the troubled minds of these heroic settlers. Seed grain advances might be made along the lines suggested by the member from Redcliff.

DISAPPROVE OF ACTION OF D. R. O.

T. St. Arnaud, St. Albert (U. F. A.), repudiated the suggestion that difficulty had been experienced in polling the votes in Grouard, where the election had been properly fought. He did not approve of the action of the deputy returning officer at Fahler, in adding names to the list after it was closed, though he did not believe it was the intention of that officer to be unfair.

He hoped that the Government would take all necessary steps to prevent anything of this kind occurring again.

Referring to a suggestion by Mr. Giroux, that many farmers did not join the Wheat Pool because of any supposed "U. F. A. domination," Mr. St. Arnaud said that in his experience there was no objection on any such ground, but that the farmers were too poor in many cases to wait for the second and later pay-

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Senate Reform Very Real Issue to Farmer, Labor and Independent Members of the Commons

Irvine's Resolution on Change in House Rules Suitable Only to Two Party System Leads to Appointment of Committee to Consider Revision—Freight Rates and Grain Act Command Attention—Rural Credits Not Yet Before Parliament

By D. W. Warner, U. F. A. Member for Strathcona

Senate reform is considered a real issue by the Independent, Labor and Farmer members as well as the more liberal minded of the old party members. It depends largely on Ontario and Quebec owing to their heavier population, but does not look impossible when we consider that it is only a matter of legislation, and the request to have our Constitution amended by the British Parliament is not a legislative enactment on our part.

SENATE CANNOT PREVENT AMENDMENT

Apparently all that the Senate can do in this case is to appeal to the British legislators against the wishes of the Canadian people. Provided a conference in which all the Provinces are represented decide that they wish the Constitution amended and petition the Mother Parliament through their representatives in the Canadian Parliament to so amend it, it is then up to the British Parliament to decide as to whether they will please the Canadian people or the Canadian Senators if the Senate opposes the measure. The end in view is to leave the B. N. A. Act in such a form that changes can be made by ourselves as we desire hereafter.

The Ministers, while admitting the necessity of economy in the maintenance of the Dominion Government, also complain of their inability to cut down expenditures on account of so much of it being uncontrollable. However, the Farmer members are still stressing their demands that expenses be cut where it can be done without seriously impairing the efficiency of the Government.

PARLIAMENT MUST FULLY RESTORE AGREEMENT

The Crow's Nest Pass Agreement is only partially saved by the Courts. Parliament will now have a chance to re-establish it in full by bringing the rest of the rates down to the old level of what they were before the suspension of that famous agreement. It is to be hoped we will not sustain any more such surprises as that which we experienced when suspension was allowed to lapse during the last session; namely, the tactics used by the railway operators by not allowing it to apply on all lines as it used to do.

When the estimates of the Minister of Agriculture were under discussion, the grading of butter and cheese for home consumption as well as for export was well gone into. It was felt that our own people should not be compelled to use so much inferior butter and cheese of too low a grade for export as is now left in Canada, and that a system of grading for home use would in a manner help the situation by improving quality.

Mr. Shaw's divorce bill brought on a

In the second of the series of articles by U. F. A. members of the House of Commons, Mr. Warner presents an interesting review of the issues before Parliament at the present session. The next article will be by L. H. Jelliff, M. P.

very contentious debate, some of the members holding that it would encourage and increase the number of divorces in the four Western Provinces, the only part of Canada to which it applies. Others pointed out very clearly that the only effect the bill could possibly have was to place the sexes in equal position as far as grounds for divorce were concerned.

TO CONSIDER REVISION OF OUTWARD RATES

Mr. Irvine's resolution calling for changes in the rules of the House in order to bring them more nearly in line with present needs, was headed off by an amendment offered by the Prime Minister, asking that the subject be referred to a committee in conjunction with the Speaker to work out the needed changes and report to the House. Parliament has now four groups, as well as several independent members, and the rules as they now stand were formulated for two parties only.

The idea of bonusing a binder twine factory in Manitoba precipitated an interesting discussion, centering around the principle rather than the amount of

the grant. However, the fact as to whether the industry could be successfully established and supported in connection with common farming as carried on in that Province, with or without a bonus, was not determined. While it was considered a desirable undertaking there was a doubt expressed as to whether it could be made a successful enterprise.

In the discussion of the estimates of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, the unsatisfactory method in use at present to determine the selling value of our wheat, the superficial examination to decide the grade it should go in, instead of a scientific milling test which could establish the real value in a satisfactory manner, was pretty thoroughly aired. This should be of use when the Grain Act is being overhauled. It was pointed out that grain going West, through Edmonton in particular, did not receive as high a grade as when going to Winnipeg. The Minister admitted that he had had complaints in regard to this matter which he had investigated, with the result that the Grain Board and graders had denied the charge, but it will take more than their denial to make the Western shipper believe he is getting a square deal.

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Organization News

Don't forget University Week for Farm Young People June 3rd to 9th. The Conference Fund is now open. That means that every Senior Local has the happy privilege of paying \$5.00, or more, to help pay the railway expenses of the U. F. A. Junior delegates.

CONVENTION IN GRANDE PRAIRIE

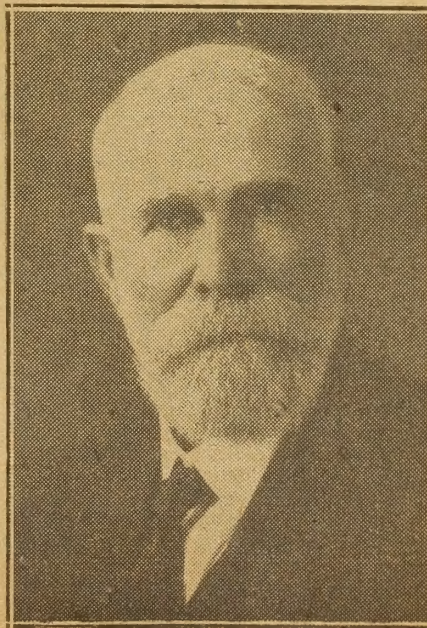
The annual convention of the Grande Prairie U. F. A. District Association will be held on March 27th and 28th, in the Oddfellows' Hall, Grande Prairie.

GREENLEAF LOCAL FORMED

F. J. Ferguson assisted in the organization of Greenleaf Local, in the Trochu district. J. A. Swanson and C. J. Gribling were elected officers.

RE-ENACT MINERAL RIGHTS TAX

EDMONTON, March 11.—Mr. Reid announced in his Budget speech that the Mineral Rights Tax, disallowed by the Dominion Government, would be re-enacted in a new form, and that any amounts collected under this tax in 1925 would be additional to the revenue already estimated.



D. W. WARNER, M.P.

Accounts of Alberta From Formation of Province Carefully Analyzed In Provincial Balance Sheet

Information on Provincial Finances Since 1905 Now Available to Public for First Time in Readily Accessible Form—High Tribute Paid to Excellent Work of R. G. Reid and Staff

REVENUE OF PROVINCE IN 1924		
	Actual Revenue	Estimated Revenue
Dominion Subsidies	\$1,674,435.00	\$1,674,435.00
School Lands	588,691.73	650,000.00
Agricultural Department	322,590.88	300,850.00
Attorney General's Department	2,427,504.45	2,353,532.89
Education Department	190,956.35	161,040.00
Executive Council	200,907.46	291,000.00
Legislation	1,703.00	2,520.00
Municipal Affairs Department	2,375,229.24	2,716,500.00
Provincial Secretary's Department	2,160,961.21	2,106,815.00
Public Health Department	114,586.35	141,950.00
Public Works Department	95,104.52	332,450.00
Railways Department	1,485.89	3,000.00
Treasury Department	352,471.05	318,252.73

A brief summary of the facts and figures revealed in the public accounts was published in the March 4th issue of "The U. F. A.", together with a complete statement of the estimated and actual expenditure in 1924 in each of the Alberta Government departments. A comparative statement of the estimated and actual revenue in these departments is published in the current number.

EFFECT OF DISALLOWANCE OF MINERAL TAX ACT

It will be noticed that in the Department of Municipal Affairs the actual revenue for the year fell short of the estimates by \$341,270.76. This was explained by the fact that the Mineral Rights Tax, which had been estimated to produce \$400,000, was made impossible of collection, owing to the action of the Dominion Government, which, on the ground that it conflicted with Dominion policy, disallowed the Mineral Rights Tax Act. The matter was dealt with by Mr. Brownlee in the speech reported elsewhere in the current issue. If the estimated \$400,000 had been realized, the total Provincial deficit would have been \$220,841.42, instead of \$620,841.42.

The revenue in the Public Works Department was less than the estimate by \$237,345.48. The reason for this large difference between estimated and actual revenue was that the Federal Road Grant, for work done in 1924, was not received until late in January of this year, and therefore could not be included in the estimates. The amount of the grant was \$210,000.

Only \$588,691.73 was produced by school lands, as against the estimate of \$650,000, and the Executive Council, which collects the mine owners' tax, received only \$200,907.46, instead of \$291,000, as estimated. In the Departments of Agriculture, Attorney General, Education, Provincial Secretary and Treasury, the revenue exceeded the estimates.

FINANCIAL POSITION EASILY ASCERTAINED

For the first time in the history of the Province, a balance sheet is now issued. In the balance sheet the Provincial Auditor, James C. Thompson, C.A., has analyzed the accounts of Alberta from the time of the formation of the Province in 1905 onward. Thus there is placed at the disposal of the public, valuable and readily accessible information, revealing the financial situation of the Province from year to year.

Under the new plan of bookkeeping, all commitments must be charged against the accounts of the year to which they belong, in order that over-spending of estimates by departments may be guarded against, and the true position of affairs indicated on the balance sheet. Under the old system, "expenditure" consisted of the cash actually disbursed only, without regard to commitments incurred.

Due to the fact that accounts payable at the beginning of the year were greater than

accounts payable at the end of the year 1924, the new system shows a decrease in the deficit, as compared with the deficit which would have been shown under the old system, of \$47,221.

All branches of the Provincial service and all Government activities of any kind, are included in the consolidated surplus or deficit account.

REFLECTS HIGH CREDIT ON PROVINCIAL TREASURY

The Edmonton Journal, at the conclusion of an excellent summary of the public accounts which appeared in its columns, stated last week:

"The greatest possible credit is due to Hon. R. G. Reid, the Minister of the Department, to Deputy Provincial Treasurer, W. V. Newson, to the Provincial Auditor, James C. Thompson, and to the staff of the Department, all of whom have labored hard and long to produce so splendid a statement of the Province's affairs."

REFER TO ITEMS IN MARCH 4th ISSUE

The summary published last week, which was received by telephone shortly before "The U. F. A." went to press, contained, in a number of copies which came first off the press, one or two items which, as they stood, were incompletely explained.

Readers are asked to refer to the first paragraph, page 10, the concluding sentence of which should read (as in the later copies): "After providing for expenditure on special warrant of \$109,765.12, the actual expenditure is less than the estimated expenditure by \$583,785.52."

The second sentence in the fifth paragraph should read: "From January 1st, 1924, the accounts were placed on a revenue and expenditure basis under which revenue consists of actual cash only, but for purposes of control uncollected revenue is taken and carried as an asset on the balance sheet (although this revenue is not taken into account as revenue for the year);" etc., the remainder of the sentence being unchanged.

Readers who may desire the statement in the March 4th issue for future reference are requested to examine the numbers they received to see that these sentences read correctly.

The article of March 4th also referred to the fact that the accumulated deficit of the Province on income account from the time of its formation in 1905, is shown. This deficit, indicated in the balance sheet, is \$4,729,489. Through an obvious misprint the words "this debt" appeared in one place in the paragraph dealing with the subject, instead of "this deficit".

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 3)

members of the Assembly would have been glad to do during their embarrassing cross-examination.

The first Government in Alberta to present a statement of the public finances giving in simply and easily digested form all the essential facts on the financial position of the Province since its formation in 1905, so far as these facts are ascertainable, is the U. F. A. Government. The changes that have been made in the system of bookkeeping, the publication of a balance sheet, and the other improvements which have been effected in the direction of simplification, reflect the highest credit upon R. G. Reid, who is responsible for the Treasury department, and upon those members of his staff who have been engaged in the work.

* * *

"Eight million dollars or more of honest, well-earned money distributed almost at once in a country like Alberta cannot but mean benefit of a very real and far-reaching character", said the Edmonton Journal in discussing the Wheat Pool interim payment. "The Wheat Pool is showing signs of success. It seems to have been very well managed."

* * *

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS (Edmonton Journal)

The accounts presented on Tuesday are in much better form than they have ever been before. Those who had hitherto sought to inform themselves regarding Alberta's finances have had reason to complain of the difficulty of the task. A representative of the Monetary Times who made an investigation a few months ago deplored the lack of a comprehensive statement. This has now been remedied by the preparation of a consolidated balance sheet, accompanied by detailed statements, and a clear idea of where the Province stands is afforded. Without this, it was not possible to establish a proper system of control, and the auditor and other officials are to be congratulated on the thoroughness with which they have done their work.

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Notes From Wheat Pool Head Office

INTERIM PAYMENTS AT LOCAL POINTS

We wish to call particular attention to the important information given on the back page of this issue, in regard to the interim payments which should be received by members from elevator agents, effective March 16th, 1925.

To Wheat Pool Members:

As intimated in the issue of "The U. F. A." of March 4th, and through the daily press during the past week, interim payment cheques on the basis of 35 cents per bushel on all grades of wheat delivered to the Pool are being placed in the mail as fast as our staff can prepare them. These cheques are only in payment of interim coupons surrendered and checked against deliveries.

Any member who has shipped wheat through two or more different points will be receiving more than one cheque. On receipt of your first cheque covering only part of your deliveries, do not conclude that the Pool has failed to settle correctly with you, but wait a few days before writing, as you should receive the other cheque or cheques shortly.

Members still holding interim coupons are again requested to forward coupons and growers' certificates at once to Wheat Pool Office, 226 Lougheed Building, Calgary.

W. C. SMITH ON OVER ASSESSMENT

Speaking in the debate on the address, in the Alberta Legislature, W. C. Smith, M.L.A. for Redcliff, stated that the farmers on their deeded land had in the past been paying taxes on land assessed for double and treble its value. He suggested that the least the Government could do would be to forego the amount of taxes due from this over assessment, and that the valuation of such lands to take place in 1926 should also apply to the year 1925, in order partially to relieve the farmers from the burden under which they labored owing to this over assessment.

BROWNLEE DELIVERS VIGOROUS ATTACK ON GOVERNMENT CRITICS

(Continued from page 9)

ments, as their creditors pressed them for payment of debts as soon as threshing was over.

Alex. Ross adjourned the debate

Ross Corrects Milnes' Figures on Highways Expenditure in 1922

Dr. Stewart Declares Intention to Vote
Against Amendment—Laudas Joly and
P. M. Christophers Deliver Inter-
esting Speeches

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 4th.—Replying, point by point, to criticism which had been offered from the Liberal benches, during his absence in the East, Alex. Ross, Minister of Public Works, quoted statistics to show that on its financial side, this criticism was based on the use of figures which were entirely incorrect. Dr. J. S. Stewart, Lethbridge, who sits as a Conservative but has been almost entirely independent in his approach to public issues in the Assembly, made a speech strongly progressive in tone, and concluded by declaring his intention not to support the amendment, which was designed, he said, "purely for political purposes and not in the interests of good government." Laudas Joly, U. F. A. member for St. Paul, dealt with broken promises of railway facilities made by C. W. Cross during the Liberal regime, and called to the attention of the Government the needs of his constituency. P. M. Christophers, Rocky Mountain (Labor), dealt with the problem of unemployment and other labor questions. UNIVERSITY AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH

At the opening of the sitting, after laying on the table the annual report of the University of Alberta, Perren Baker, Minister of Education, rising on a question of privilege, read a resolution adopted by the faculty of the University "observing with regret" that a statement had been made in the Assembly implying that pressure in restraint of freedom of speech has been applied by any University authority, and stating that at no time had such restraint been applied.

This brought F. W. White to his feet in hot protest that as he himself had not implied anything but had made a definite statement in the Legislature, in respect to a case of interference with freedom of speech, and had offered to furnish the Government privately with full particulars, he should at least have been consulted in the matter. He greatly deprecated the manner in which, instead of accepting his offer to supply information, the Minister of Education, without inquiry, should have read a resolution from the University, in a manner which apparently gave it an official character. Mr. White said he was still prepared to give definite information, not to imply anything.

Mr. Baker replied that in reading the communication from the University he had not intended to give offense in any quarter.

Quoting from a printed report of a statement made by C. R. Mitchell, to the effect that the Minister had chosen

an advisory committee on highways by the process of picking names out of a hat, Alex. Ross was interrupted by the Liberal leader, who claimed to have been misquoted in the press, and said he had merely stated that the committee was chosen in this manner, and that the Minister of Public Works made no objection. Mr. Ross replied that in accordance with the rules of the Assembly he would be compelled to accept this denial, but he did so with reservation.

The Minister then pointed out that the committee was in no sense a Government committee, that it was a committee appointed by representatives of the rural municipalities for the purpose of advising upon market roads, that its expenses were not paid by the Government, that he was not a delegate, but was merely invited to speak at the meeting, and that he had nothing whatever to do with the way in which the committee was selected. He did not know who made the suggestion. The chairman of the meeting had called for nominations, and had declared that all the persons present eligible for the committee of five were equally competent.

UNWARRANTED REFLECTION ON THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ross strongly resented the statement made by the Liberal leader that the men were selected "not for any special qualifications" in connection with road construction. This was an unwarranted reflection on the men concerned whose names (those of reeves of municipalities) the Minister then read to the Assembly.

Expressing great surprise that Stanley Tobin should have been induced to join in Mr. Mitchell's criticism, Mr. Ross read a letter from Mr. Tobin expressing a very high opinion of the work of the Department and boasting of the amount of work which had been done in his own district, and adding, "Do not say anything about this, or it will spoil it." The reading of this unsolicited testimonial, written by Mr. Tobin to a third party, provoked much merriment.

Mr. Milnes' figures on the cost of road supervision and the actual amount spent in 1922, said Mr. Ross, were both absolutely wrong. Instead of spending only \$229,000, at a cost for supervision of \$42,000, the Department had spent \$1,500,000 at a cost of \$66,000, and the cost of supervision was thus about 4 per cent., and not 20 per cent., as Mr. Milnes had stated. In 1921 the cost had been \$98,000, so that in 1922 there was a cut of \$22,000.

Mr. Ross suggested that if Mr. Milnes were anxious to cut the cost very heavily in this Department, "he should not be so insistent in demands for roads and bridges."

Characterizing Mr. Henry's speech as "extremely partizan," Mr. Ross remarked that the new Edmonton member was apparently opposed to proportional representation because it had reduced his majority. He pointed out that before the adoption of proportional representation, one-third of the voters of Edmonton had been able to elect all five members.

GIROUX REPUDIATES FALSE CHARGES

The Minister of Public Works obtained from the new member for Grouard the admission that there had been no expenditure of public money in the constituency during the election for the purpose of bribing the electorate. Statements of this character, Mr. Ross point-

ed out, had been published in the press.

Mr. Giroux disclaimed all responsibility for these statements, and the discussion was closed by Mr. Ross, who pointed out that Grouard received only its due and exact appropriation for the year, in accordance with the scientific plan now in operation, and concluded, "This Government has no desire to use the machinery of the Departments for the purpose of bribing the electors, and I hope the newspapers which spread the false stories will give publicity to this repudiation."

Speaking of unemployment, Mr. Ross said that only two other Provinces, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, had less than the Province of Alberta. At the conference called to discuss this question it had been recommended that fifty per cent. of any costs of relief should be borne by municipalities concerned, twenty-five per cent. each by the Dominion and Provincial Governments, and the Provincial Government had agreed to pay its share. It had been suggested to the Department of Immigration by the Alberta Government, that sending of immigrants to Alberta should cease until the unemployed had been absorbed, but there had been no reply to this communication. A lack of co-operation was evident between the departments of immigration and labor. The Alberta Government, said Mr. Ross, had given employment, directly or indirectly, to about 400 men.

STEWART DEPLORES PETTY PARTIZANSHIP

Congratulating Mr. Brownlee on his able speech, and commending the tone of most of the speeches in the debate, Dr. J. S. Stewart, Lethbridge (Ind. Con.), strongly protested against the habit of some Liberal members of describing anything which they wished to suggest was of evil design as "a Tory trick." The people who formed the Conservative party in Alberta had just as high a standard as those of any other, "It is against the grain to have to reply to these aspersions," said Dr. Stewart.

Discussing the problem of irrigation in the south, the member for Lethbridge expressed the opinion that (a) the debt burden indebtedness should be allowed to stand, as no Government had any right to interfere with the obligation incurred; (b) that the rate should be decreased for about five years, to say \$2 an acre instead of \$5; (c) that an administrator should be appointed to give his whole time to the work, and live in the vicinity of the Lethbridge Northern.

Referring to the action of the Board of Public Utilities in setting the price of gas at Lethbridge at 53 cents, instead of 35 cents, as called for in a contract which had been validated by the Legislature, Dr. Stewart said he was opposed to any legislation which gave power to any board to set aside existing contracts. The Lethbridge voters had voted for a cast iron contract, under which the company was compelled to sell at 35 cents, the courts having stated that legally the company was bound, but that it was advisable to allow the public utilities board to deal with the matter. That board had decided to increase the rates in order to give the company a profit of 8½ per cent.

OPPOSES FRANCHISE TO PRIVATE CORPORATIONS

"I belong to a party which is supposed to favor great vested interests," said the member, "but I could not come with an unbiassed mind to consider the

granting of any public service franchise to any private corporation." He was strongly opposed to the granting of such franchises for the exploitation of the public.

The company in question, as the result of getting higher rates, were able to sell out to a New York concern, and the widows who paid the higher rates were compelled to pay this tribute of 8½ per cent. to this external concern on watered stock.

Dr. Stewart compared the Lethbridge case to the case of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, in which the Railway Commission had sought to set itself above an act of Parliament, and declared, "We have a statute of this Assembly which should not be overridden. I believe it is the duty of the Government to cancel the decision of the board."

Mr. Brownlee asked the member to raise the matter again at a later date, as he believed that a misapprehension existed, and that he would like to make full inquiries into the matter.

Dr. Stewart: "I shall be very glad to do so, and if I have made a mistake I am willing to apologize for it now and make a correction later."

URGES INQUIRY INTO COST OF BEER

Commending the work of Mr. Dinning, the Liquor Control Commissioner, Dr. Stewart said that he had found that the great majority of the people who voted for the Liquor Control Act desired first of all cheap beer, to reduce the consumption of hard liquor, and after that, that all profits should go to the reduction of Provincial taxation and the Provincial debt. He was surprised that the Ottawa Government should receive more revenue than the Province out of the liquor business, owing to existing Dominion taxation.

The member pointed out that on hard liquor the profit was from 22 to 24 per cent. and on beer less than 5 per cent., 70 per cent. of the turnover being for beer. "If there is any profit in beer," said he, "this Government is not making it. It is too high priced at the source of supply, and I suggest that the public accounts committee should hold an investigation into this matter. We pay in Alberta \$20 for a quantity which is Montreal costs \$12.50, the difference being the amount of freight charges which would be incurred in shipping here from the East."

EDMONTON MEMBERS AND COST OF LIVING

Describing the Liberal amendment as a vote of want of confidence in the Government, Dr. Stewart said that the Moore-Love resolution did not apply in this case. He had never known of a want of confidence motion being submitted except upon some matter of the greatest seriousness. As to the proposal to lower the indemnity, it must be pointed out that two-thirds of the Liberals were residents of the city of Edmonton, that they did not have to leave their homes to attend the Legislature, or visit their constituents, and that they could attend their offices or stores on part of every day when the Assembly was in session. Members from elsewhere must virtually establish two homes, one of them in Edmonton, and their costs were thus greatly increased.

"When I find that I am getting more than I think I earn, I shall return it to the Government," said the member,

"and any members who feel they are not earning what they get now are at liberty to do so, but this is purely a vote-catching trick."

"If the member for Leduc votes for this motion, he votes against the Lacombe North Western Railway. If the Liberal member for Calgary votes for it, he votes against the appointment of Mr. Davidson as Highways Commissioner."

JOLY ON NEEDS OF ST. PAUL CONSTITUENCY

Strongly pleading for railway and road improvements in his constituency, Laudas Joly, St. Paul (U.F.A.), in a well-delivered speech, said that he realized that they could not get all the railway facilities at once, but that he hoped the most reasonable would be granted. St. Paul had four miles of railway and one shipping point to serve 5,000 square miles of well-settled country. C. W. Cross had made lavish promises which had never been fulfilled. Only since 1922 had the constituency been getting anywhere in the matter of road construction. Mr. Joly submitted figures showing that 160 cars of cattle, 272 of hogs, 17 of horses, 700,000 bushels of grain, 900,000 lbs. of fish, 300,000 lbs. of butter and much lumber, were shipped from the constituency. He urged the Government to complete the main highway from St. Paul to Cold Lake, this year, stating that but little would require to be spent to qualify for the Federal road grant.

CHRISTOPHERS ON CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

P. M. Christophers, Rocky Mountain (Labor), regretted that the speech from the throne had contained but a passing reference to unemployment. The Minister of Public Works, in giving figures of unemployment, had overlooked the coal camps of the Crow's Nest Pass, where about 2,000 men had only one day's work per week, and some none, since the strike. The cause of unemployment was that only the equivalent of a small proportion of his product was returned to the producer.

It was said that lower wages would bring bigger markets, yet the British experience had been the reverse. The British miners took a reduction in 1921, and three more reductions since, and today they were in a worse condition than at any previous time since 1870. There was less work since they accepted a reduction than before.

Mr. Christophers protested against the Government paying as low a wage as 35 cents an hour, pointing out that the Dominion cost of living figures shows that a family could not live on less than \$20.90 a week in the urban communities. If the men working for the Government were employed every day in the week except Sunday, all through the year, they would be still \$200 short of the living wage as defined in the Dominion statistics. As it was, they were able to work only four or five months in the year.

"PATRIOTISM." "CANADIANISM" AND BUSINESS

Dealing with Mr. Henry's attack on Mr. Bartholomew, Mr. Christophers said he did not believe any member of the Assembly should attack a man who was unable to defend himself. He recalled Mr. Henry's patriotic periods, and his emphasis on building up Canadian industries, and then passed on to enumerate some of the goods sold in Mr.

Henry's Edmonton store. Mr. Christophers said he had spent nearly a day in investigating, and found most of these goods that were marked at all were labelled "Made in Germany," "Made in Japan," or made in some other foreign country.

Liberal Amendment Defeated by 42 to 11 on Division

Bowen, Cook, Love, Galbraith and Fedun Speakers on Last Day of Debate—Bowen Charges Extravagance

THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 5.—The Liberal amendment to the address was defeated in the Legislature this evening by 42 votes to 11, receiving only the support of the Liberal members in the Assembly. The Labor, Independent and Conservative members voted with the Government.

The debate has been in progress for eleven days; its conclusion clears the way for business of legislation, and large numbers of Government bills which have been on the order paper almost since the beginning of the session will now receive attention. J. C. Bowen, Edmonton (Liberal), E. G. Cook, Pincher Creek (U. F. A.), Russell Love, Wainwright (U. F. A.), D. H. Galbraith, Nanton (U. F. A.), and W. Fedun, Victoria (U. F. A.), were the speakers in the debate today.

HOUSE DIVIDES ON MOTION FOR RETURN

The first business of the sitting was a motion by C. R. Mitchell for a return showing the uncollected revenue from 1921 to 1924. R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, called attention to the fact that all this information was in the public accounts, and stated the pages and paragraphs in which it might be found. When information was so readily obtainable and public in form he objected to the Province being put to the expenditure of preparing special returns. If information were given once, that should be enough. The Government should not be called on to repeat it throughout the session time and time again in different form. Mr. Mitchell strongly protested, declaring that members should not have to waste time running over the public accounts and consulting various volumes to obtain information. He was supported by Robt. Pearson of Calgary, and the Assembly divided on the motion which was defeated by 34 votes to 16, the Labor and Independent members voting with the Liberals.

A second request of Mr. Mitchell for an order for a statement of liabilities incurred by the Province in respect to the year 1924, and not paid in that year, and for 1921 liabilities paid in 1925, met with no objection from Mr. Reid, who pointed out, however, that the cost would be about \$150, and that three weeks would be required to complete the return.

WOULD COST \$2,000 FOR ONE RETURN, SAYS REID

When a third motion of the Liberal leader, asking for the total amount of deferred revenue earned prior to January 1st, 1922, but collected during subsequent years, came before the Assembly, Mr. Reid explained that as the former Provincial Treasurer was well aware, the books of the Province had never at any time been designed in such form that this information could be obtained. To give even a part of the information desired in this particular form it would be necessary to search a large number of vouchers in every department and entail a cost of \$2,000, while to change the system of book-keeping so as to make it available in this form in future would cost \$20,000. The As-

sembly declined the order, and in 'his instance Mr. Mitchell did not venture to divide the Legislature by a standing vote. Mr. Reid pointed out that under the system introduced by the present Government, the amount of deferred revenue now appeared in the balance sheet, and would so appear in all future years.

Answering Mr. Marshall, the Provincial Treasurer stated that the net public debt on December 24, 1924, was \$76,911,944; that \$750,000 was added after the close of the year; that the bonded debt on the bonds of the University was \$1,600,000; that \$8,519,552 was borrowed by the Province in 1924; and that total capital expenditure for 1924 was \$3,416,518. Mr. Henry was informed that the operating cost of the Provincial Savings Certificate branch in 1924 was \$4,800 for salaries, \$8,036 for expenses, and \$283,105 interest payments, and that on December 31st, 1924, savings certificates amounted to \$3,686,553, and at the end of 1924 to \$5,526,306.

BOWEN SAYS AMENDMENT MEANS "WANT OF CONFIDENCE"

While some of the Liberal speakers on the opposition amendment to the address had contended that it was in no sense a vote of want of confidence in the Government, J. C. Bowen, Edmonton (Liberal), who was the first speaker of the day in the resumed debate, frankly expressed his opinion that this was "a vote of want of confidence in the Government." This called forth from Mr. Brownlee the remark that under such circumstances it was obviously unfair to tie up the question of U. F. A. members' confidence in the Government with the matter of this vote. If they wished to vote for reduced indemnities, they could not do so without turning out the Government and bringing on an immediate election.

Mr. Bowen declared that it was a matter of grave public importance that the "debt was piling up every year," that the people were being burdened more and more with taxation, that there was no reference to economy in the speech from the throne. The vote of want of confidence was intended to show that the Government had abandoned the policy of economy.

The amendment, however, merely said that a reduction of the indemnities was the place to begin. If any sacrifice was to be made, it should be made first by the members. "The time has come," Mr. Bowen said, "when the people will cease to be pacifists so far as taxation is concerned." Since it came into office the Government had been marking time, had done nothing at all until last year, when a little progress was made in road work. Meanwhile, public buildings were falling into disrepair. There was no excuse therefore, said the member, for any increase in debt.

PEOPLE WANT SOMETHING BETTER THAN PETTY POLITICS

"In my humble opinion," remarked E. G. Cook, Pincher Creek (U. F. A.), in the course of a brief but thoughtful and constructive speech, "the people of this Province are looking for something better than the sort of thing that has been heard too frequently in this debate." The member deprecated the tone of artificial acrimony, the insincerity of much of the debate, which should, he said, be carried on on a much higher plane than this. Speaking of the Liberal amendment, and the proposal to make the indemnity question one of no-confidence in the Government, Mr. Cook added, "I am satisfied that the people are first of all concerned that we should put forth our best efforts in their service, that we should do all that we are capable of doing for the good of the Province, and provide sound administration, and that if we do this, they will be content that we should be remunerated fairly."

Mr. Cook said that the problems facing the Province were too serious to be made the football of party politics. In the matter of the natural resources, for instance, the one thing of outstanding importance was that these resources should be administered in a satisfactory way. If they were improperly administered their transference to the Province would be productive of very great evils. If, on the other hand, they were wisely administered, in the interests of all the people, immeasurable good would accrue to the present and future generations.

"When we have questions of such magnitude as this to deal with," said the member, "there should be no place in this Assembly for petty party politics."

Briefly referring to the figures used by Mr. Milnes, in an effort to show that the Government had been extravagant in the highways branch in 1922, and in connection with the special audit, and also to the attacks on the U. F. A. by various Liberal members of the Assembly, Mr. Cook remarked, "If these members had been as careful in checking up the records of the Government as they have been in checking up the U. F. A., they might not have remained so much in the dark as they were as to the real financial situation."

Citing an instance from his own experience of the folly of carrying on any business enterprise without providing for a proper audit, Mr. Cook said that at Pincher Creek a co-operative marketing organization, when it came to check up, faced a loss of \$205,000, which the directors had to face. Then a new organization got under way, engaged a chartered accountant to audit their books, without bothering about the cost. They had had no trouble since then. "Efficiency first, last and all the time," is the sound policy, said the member. The new association last year made shipments to British Columbia, to Drumheller and as far north as Edmonton.

SUGGESTS AUDITOR FOR ALL CO-OPERATIVES

"The outlay on the special Provincial audit," declared Mr. Cook, "was money well spent. I would like to suggest that the Government should appoint an auditor to give his whole time to checking up the accounts of the co-operative organizations of various kinds in this Province. It would make for efficiency and would be well worth while."

In conclusion the member for Pincher Creek remarked that the Liberal amendment was a "safety first" amendment, since the mover knew that by making the question one of no-confidence in the Government they compelled all members who wished the U. F. A. Government to continue in office to vote against the amendment. "Even if I were in favor of the cut, which I am not, I should feel bound to vote against the amendment, for I wish this Government to continue," Mr. Cook concluded.

In one of the best speeches in the debate, Russell Love, Wainwright (U. F. A.), discussed the oil resources of the Province, but devoted himself mainly to a critical examination of the claim made by Mr. Bowen that the Saskatchewan Government had gone further in the direction of economy than the Alberta Government.

"Until the member for Edmonton (Mr. Bowen) stated that this was actually intended by the movers as a vote of want of confidence," declared Mr. Love, "I was in some doubt as to how I should regard this amendment, but there can be no doubt now."

SOME MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Mr. Bowen said that the Alberta Government was piling up public debt, and asked whether this was not a matter of public importance. Was it of no public importance, asked Mr. Love, that the Government had to meet charges of \$2,500,000 on the guaranteed bonds of defaulting railways? \$1,250,000 in respect to the railway commitments of their predecessors? \$1,000,000 in respect to branch lines made necessary by blunders in past immigration policy of the Dominion Government? \$500,000 for a technical institute commenced before they came into office? \$1,500,000 for police headquarters? The cost of the institute at Ponoka? the construction of a much larger number of bridges than Saskatchewan needed, because the character of our country was different? Was it of no public importance that highways and market roads to serve the needs of our community should be built?

Was it of no public importance that half a million dollars had been spent in 1923 in extirpating grasshoppers, thus making possible the heavy crop of that year? Was it not of public importance that the Government must meet the commitments of its predecessors in respect to the Lethbridge North-eastern, and pay the defaulted interest?

Mr. Love said that only two or three U. F. A. members had asked, during their speeches, for increased expenditures, while most of the Liberals, in supporting their own motion calling for drastic curtailment of expenditure, had made no suggestions as to where this could be done, but on the other hand had pleaded with the Government to spend more money.

REDUCED CONTROLLABLE EXPENDITURE BY OVER MILLION

The member for Wainwright then compared the controllable expenditure in Saskatchewan and Alberta over a period of years, remarking that this provided a complete answer to Mr. Mitchell's contention that Saskatchewan under its present regime had been more economical than Alberta under the U. F. A. Government. The population of Saskatchewan had increased by 16 per cent. since 1916, and that of Alberta by 18 per cent. Yet, during the period from 1919 to 1923-24, controllable expenditure (all expenditure except interest charges, which could not be avoided) had increased from \$4,425,727 to \$9,640,585, or 118 per cent. in Saskatchewan, while the controllable expenditure of Alberta during the same period had increased from \$3,967,058 to \$7,325,296, or 85 per cent. Under the U. F. A. Government there had been an actual reduction in controllable expenditure since 1921 of about \$1,200,000. No telephone expenditure was included in respect to either Province.

Mr. Mitchell: "Give us the amount of the increase for which we were responsible."

Mr. Love: "I shall be glad to do so. The increase when you were in control was 11 per cent. And if we had increased our controllable expenditure at the same rate as Saskatchewan since we came into office, it would now have been \$8,648,000."

The total amount of all new taxes imposed by the U. F. A. Government, declared Mr. Love, would not meet the increased charges for public debt since 1921, most of these being for commitments made before the change of Government.

Mr. Love remarked that the reason why Saskatchewan was able to raise more money than Alberta from land taxes was that in the former Province there were 17,000,000 acres under cultivation, and in Alberta only 8,000,000.

TO SECURE UNIFORMITY IN BUTTER PRODUCTION

Speaking of the need for greater uniformity in the output of butter throughout the year, in order to maintain Alberta's standing on the world's markets, the member said that only one-fifth of Alberta's butter production took place between November 1st and March 31st. A bonus of 4 cents a pound could therefore be given to encourage production in these months, at the cost of a one cent reduction on the price during the remainder of the year. This would encourage winter production. It could only be done, however, through a co-operative Dairy Pool.

Mr. Love was surprised that boards of trade had not realized that the old immigration policy was mistaken. Under the "Laurier" policy, based on "good jobs and free land for every man," large numbers of men had been brought in for development work. By the end of 1913 the work was done, the "good jobs" for workmen were ended, and it was natural that they should go to the United States. The policy advocated by Premier Greenfield, on the other hand, was that the first task was to make the primary industry pay, and that immigration would follow as a natural consequence.

WOULD MERELY SHIFT BURDEN TO MUNICIPALITIES

D. H. Galbraith, Nanton (U. F. A.), said that if the present expenditure on necessary services were reduced to make the budget balance, the burden would merely be shifted to the municipalities. He contended that the duties and powers of the Public Utilities Board were too great, as was shown in the Lethbridge gas case. He believed that Federal legislation should be sought to give the Utilities Board power over companies holding Dominion charters, pointing out that without such powers the Board could not protect the public against such companies. Mr. Galbraith advocated long

term loans on the amortization plan, and the reorganization of the credit system.

WILD TALK ABOUT IMMIGRATION, SAYS FEDUN

Describing the condition of the farmers since 1920 as differing but slightly from slavery, William Fedun, Victoria (U. F. A.), said that there was a great deal of wild talk about immigration. The farmer was compelled to work 18 hours a day, and earned very little. Owing to the heavy tax burden he could hardly afford to provide educational facilities for his children even at the public school; to send them to high school was out of the question. Burdens of taxation must be reduced, freight rates and interest charges lowered.

In so far as immigration from continental Europe was concerned, Mr. Fedun favored the policy of the open door. Farmers who came to Canada 30 years ago from his own country had proved good settlers. There was one serious obstacle to immigration, however—the prevailing conditions here—and he did not favor any form of misleading propaganda to attract immigrants.

The vote on the Liberal amendment to the address was as follows:

For the amendment: Messieurs Mitchell, Marshall, Bowen, McClung (Mrs.), Mills, Dechene, McLennan, Giroux, Henry, Milnes. Total—10.

Against the amendment: Messieurs Greenfield, Hoadley, Reid, Ross, Parlbay (Mrs.), Smith, V. W., Baker, Love, Matheson, Forster, MacLachlan, Sparks, Cameron, Galbraith, Shield, Carson, Moore, Brown, Joly, Washburn, St. Arnaud, Andrews, Buckley, Farquharson, Peterson, Cook, Smith, G. W., Stringam, Johnston, G. N., Sanders, Enzenauer, Proudfoot, Conner, Fedun, Chornohus, Stewart, Dr., Pearson, Davidson, White, Christophers, Johnston, W. G. Total—41.

S. G. Tobin was paired with N. S. Smith and M. C. McKeen was in the Speaker's chair in the absence of Mr. McPherson.

Mr. Reid stated in answer to Mr. Tobin that the Province received on January 20, 1925, the sum of \$210,519 under the Federal Highways Act with respect to main highways construction in 1924, the money being deposited in general revenue income account. During 1924 and to date there had been borrowed \$1,500,000 in respect to this construction, by two debenture issues of \$750,000 each for 15 year terms, and deposited in the general revenue fund on capital account.

Assembly Demands Maximum Freight Rates Retained

Important Resolution on Freight Rates Adopted—Legislature Considers Case of Student Who Withdrew From University

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 6.—A resolution expressing the opinion that equalization of freight rates throughout Canada is impossible without statutory provision for maximum rates in those parts of the Dominion in which freight rates are not controlled by competitive water transportation, was moved by V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways and Telephones, and carried unanimously today.

The resolution set forth that the Alberta Government should continue its efforts to insure the necessary statutory maximum rates, and also the equalization of rates affecting different points within the Province. The Provincial Government was also asked to continue its efforts to obtain an equalization of rates on primary products for shipment for export, as well as for domestic consumption, to and from the Pacific coast.

Mr. Smith, in the course of a brief speech, explained the significance of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, which, by providing maximum rates, had been a large factor in building up the West, because it had "for 28 years, with the exception of the three years, 1919 to 1922, held the rates on grain

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on a basis where the farmer has had a reasonable chance to produce at a profit.

JUDGMENT MAKES ACTION IMPERATIVE

"Equalization of the rate structure of Canada without a compensating safeguard in the West to offset the very effective rate control which water competition assures to the East, would, to say the least, be giving one part of the country a preference not conducive to the prosperity of the whole," said the Minister. Mr. Smith pointed out that the recent judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada, which affirmed the validity of the Agreement, while allowing discrimination against lines not constructed when the Agreement was made, had magnified the necessity for the Parliament of Canada to intervene, to remove the discrimination.

GOVERNMENTS SUCCEED IN GETTING REDUCTIONS

The Minister showed that the Alberta and British Columbia Governments had been active since 1922 in an effort to promote the Western route, that success was attained in 1922 by the reduction of the excess basis over prairie rates from one and one-half to one and one-quarter as much as these rates, and that in October, 1923, a further reduction of 10 per cent. in the export grain rates to the coast was secured after appeal to the Privy Council. These reductions, however, were not sufficient to assure the development of the Province by the utilization of the shortest rail haul available to the world's markets.

Mr. Smith said that an Alberta consumer paid 70 per cent. more in freight rates on fruit from the Okanagan Valley than a consumer 400 miles west of the Okanagan; that it costs 20 per cent. more for freight on fir lumber from British Columbia than it would

for a similar haul on the prairies; that a saving of \$1,000,000 would be made on 60,000 bushels of wheat shipped for export to Vancouver if rates were equalized. He showed also that the rate on grain for local consumption at the coast is a much higher rate than the rate for export grain, the rate for the export market being 22½ cents, and for local 41 cents per 100 lbs., or 85 per cent. higher.

"In other words, the consumer in Japan has no higher freight cost than the consumer in British Columbia on grain from Alberta points," said Mr. Smith.

FORM OF INITIATION AT UNIVERSITY

During discussion in the committee of the whole of a bill to amend the University Act, R. C. Marshall called attention to the case of a student, Dwight R. Rice, who during the first week of attendance at the University was ordered to comply with the sophomore initiation program, by shaving a V shaped figure at the back of his head, wearing a light skull cap of various colors, in such a way that the V could be seen, rolling up his trousers at least one foot above his boots, wearing a green tie, and a number of pen-nants, daily on the public highway as well as elsewhere, from commencement until field day. The student, who had been a teacher for some years, was actively interested in clean sport, and was of mature age, declined to comply with the order, and finally was requested to leave the University by the Students' Council unless he should agree to comply or pay any penalty that the council might order. Mr. Rice accordingly left the University.

Mr. Marshall said there ought to be a limit to the power of the Students' Council to make it impossible for a student, who had been duly admitted, to attend the Univer-

Ewing Appeals to Calgary Locals for Special Effort in Organization

Director for New East and West Calgary Constituencies on Plans for Organizing New Constituency

NEW CALGARY CONSTITUENCIES

It will be necessary for East and West Calgary Constituency Associations to call a convention in the near future to organize in accordance with the new constituency lines. Any members of the old Boards, and any Locals in the new East and West Calgary that have any suggestion to offer as to when this convention should be called are requested to write S. J. Ewing, as president of the old East Calgary Federal Constituency Association, or to C. H. MacFarquhar, as president of the old West Calgary Federal Constituency Association.

S. J. EWING,
President old East Calgary Constituency Association.
212 Loughheed Bldg., Calgary.

C. H. MACFARQUHAR,
President old West Calgary Constituency Association.
Cremona, Alta.

To All Locals in East and West Calgary:

It is now some time since our Annual Convention, and no doubt you have listened with great interest to the report of the delegates. I trust the report of this year's Convention has been a source of great inspiration to all—not only U. F. A. members, but all our friends and neighbors on the land.

I wish to direct this message particularly to the Locals in East and West Calgary. I have been elected as your director this year, but, due to the fact that I have been recently appointed as a member of the Grain Survey Board I may not be able to visit your Locals until the summer months. Of course, if the roads were in condition to drive a car I could attend evening meetings any time.

Make Your Home Local Strong

I would like to put the same request to all members of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A.

Locals that I put to the delegates when they elected me as your director, and that is to assist with your fullest co-operation in making this year a success for our great organization. If we all do our best the work will be easy. We all have come to the time when we believe in co-operation. That being the case, it ought surely to be the duty of every one to get behind our movement, to make our home Locals strong, to get all our neighbors in as members, so that all may have a part in discussing the problems that confront us. We know these problems are many; we all acknowledge having made advancement, but still realize having the long trail ahead of us.

A great step is being taken in the marketing of our wheat by way of the Wheat Pool; yet we have a great fund of knowledge we should acquire about the grain business; so, also, in the other Pools, viz., Live Stock, Dairy and Poultry Pools, which are just in the making.

Then we have the resolutions we passed at our Convention. Some of them no doubt will be dealt with in our present sessions of Parliament and Legislature and we will be interested to know what becomes of them.

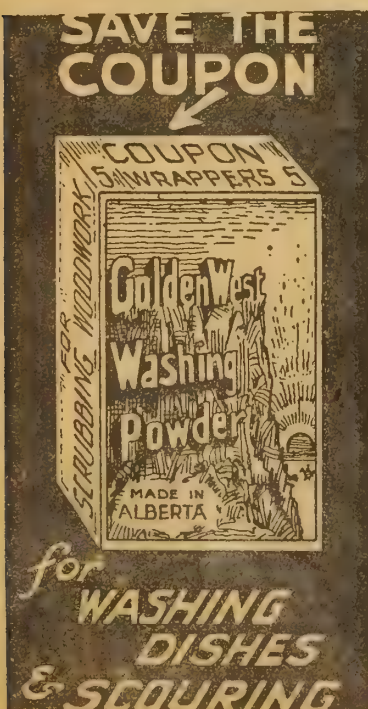
When we think of the opportunity and privileges we have now, compared with the past, we surely have reason to hold up our heads with pride—when we think of our own farmer Government at Edmonton, a good representation at Ottawa, all trying to solve the problems of the day to the best of their ability. Yet we meet a few who would criticize the actions of our own members. Criticism is a good thing if we only remember that all are human, and that the progress which has been made toward improvement in recent years has been immeasurably greater than it ever was before.

Trusting to meet with most of you during 1925, and wishing you all the best of success and a prosperous year,

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

S. J. EWING,
Director for East and West Calgary.



Say you saw it in "The U.F.A."

sity, and Mr. Davidson asked whether an inquiry was being made into the matter.

Perren Baker, Minister of Education, said he knew nothing of the affair except what had appeared in a newspaper, but it seemed that the student had offended against the discipline regulation of the Students' Council, who had powers of self-government in the University. The indignity, it appeared, was imposed in a playful spirit on all new students. Answering Mr. Marshall, the Minister said that the Students' Council had no power to suspend a student, though a recommendation from them might go a long way with the Senate.

ACTION A DISGRACE, SAYS HOADLEY

George Hoadley described the incident as a disgrace, and read the newspaper report in full, while N. S. Smith, after describing the form of organization adopted in the University, said he believed it possible that the fun incidental to initiation might be carried too far. Mr. Giroux thought the matter should be left entirely in the hands of the University, while Russell Love remarked that student self-government was a good thing in itself, and if it were taken away, conditions would be less satisfactory. G. N. Johnston said that the conduct of the student was in contempt of the highest disciplinary court of the University. The matter should not be taken too seriously, as the initiation was only intended to be taken in fun.

George Mills thought the form of initiation ridiculous, and asked how new members of the Assembly would like to be subjected to a similar humiliation. A. G. Andrews, who said he had gone through initiation in Great Britain, thought a manly kind of initiation could not be objected to, but that no man should be called upon to make himself a public clown, as this man was.

WHITE ASKS FOR INQUIRY BY COMMITTEE

Protesting that the matter should not be left to the Minister, F. J. White said that conditions at the University were not right in certain respects, and urged that a committee of the Assembly be appointed to inquire into University affairs in general in the fullest possible manner. The University should be exonerated or the blame placed where it belonged. A number of members endorsed the proposal. A. M. Matheson thought that if the student were a good citizen, entitled to admission, and had been guilty of no civil misdemeanor he had a right to attend to his own business at the University and to be left alone.

Remarking that the Assembly was wasting time by discussing the merits of "hazing", Mr. Davidson said that a good plan would be for the Minister of Education to make an inquiry without fuss or ceremony, and report to the Legislature. Mr. Baker intimated that he proposed to do this, and the discussion ended.

The chief purpose of the University Act Amendment bill, which was reported, is to add four new members to the Senate, these being the Deputy Ministers of Agriculture and Public Health, the Director of the Extension Department, and the Chairman of the Freshmen's Committee.

LACOMBE AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

The Assembly in Committee of the Whole discussed and reported a bill for an advance to the Lacombe and North Western Railway of \$520,000 for construction, and of \$18,000 for maintenance in 1925, and confirming the advance of \$5,000 made to the railway in 1924 which was provided for in the estimates last year, but not supported by legislation. The bill provides for an extension of 20 miles from the neighborhood of Mile 49.

Other bills passed through Committee of the Whole were:

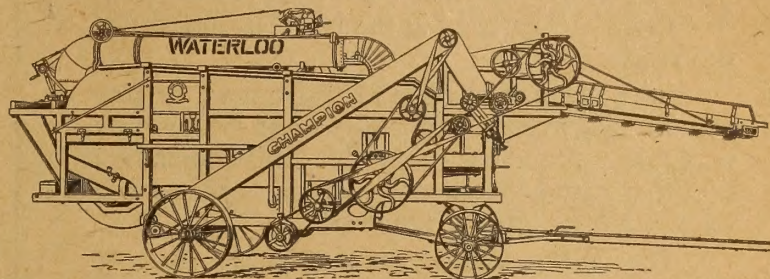
A bill to provide for an advance of \$130,000 to the A. & G. W. Railway for the purpose of maintenance upkeep and equipment.

A bill to amend the Stock Inspection Act, by changing a hide dealers' license in such a way that it permits travelling around the Province, and also requiring a bond from hide dealers.

A bill to amend the Mental Defective Act, by providing for half-yearly reports to the medical superintendent of the Provincial

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101

Canadian Pacific Rates on Livestock

FIFTY-FIVE per cent of the traffic of Western Canada is handled in the last four months of the year.

This great congestion of traffic must be prepared for by maintaining the cars and locomotives necessary to handle it promptly. This equipment, and the capital investment therein, is necessarily idle for a large part of the year.

During those same four months the roads of the United States handled one-third of the total cars loaded during the year, or just the normal average.

Traffic uniformly distributed and capital thus kept employed resulted, on the United States railways, in higher car mileage and higher ton-mile earnings than on Canadian roads.

Yet, measured on Canadian Pacific standards, the returns to Canadian railways are the lowest on the continent.

Take, for instance, the rates on livestock, which are recognized as unremunerative. Besides having low rates, in comparison with other carload freight, livestock requires special service and facilities, both in road haul and terminals. Special cars are required and there is also a great deal of empty return car haulage, which is practically 100%, because cattle cars are unsuited for any other freight.

Still, in August, 1921, the rates on livestock in effect prior to September 13th, 1920, were restored. This reduced basis was authorized after very careful consideration of the importance, from a national standpoint, of co-operation with the livestock industry and the necessity for preserving the breeding, dairy and feeding herds on Canadian farms, thus maintaining the fertility of the land.

On other traffic the rates in Eastern Canada are still 25 per cent higher, and in Western Canada 20 per cent higher, than those in effect prior to September 13th, 1920, except some basic commodities, which are 17½ per cent higher.

Always the Canadian Pacific is ready to co-operate with the public in building up and encouraging industry.

The Canadian Pacific has a real interest in developing the livestock industry in the country, because in the long run it means more traffic for the road.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

It Spans the World

29EWA

training school with regard to the mental condition of any person removed from an institution, for parole of mentally defective persons, for reports to be given by school inspectors on mentally defective children, in order that a census may be made of them.

Second reading was given to a number of private bills.

PROVINCIAL TREASURER IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH PRESENTS ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1925

(Continued from Page 1)

service concerned.

Mr. Reid repeated the warning which had previously been given, that the turning over of the natural resources to Provincial jurisdiction should not be expected to bring any increase in Provincial revenue for a considerable time to come. He made mention of the fact that during the past two or three years certain grants formerly received from the Federal Government have been discontinued. There seemed to be a general tendency in this direction, the Federal Government practising economy at the expense of the Provinces.

PROVINCIAL BORROWINGS IN YEAR 1924

The net bonded debt was increased during the year 1924 by \$5,139,362.46. The borrowings were: Public Buildings, Sites and Public Works, \$1,532,206.69; Advances to Railways, \$1,283,169.48; University Refunding Loans, \$2,563,151.56, against which items are to be set off capital receipts during the year. The net debt of the Province stood at \$76,911,944.23, annual net increases since the year 1921 having been as follows: 1921, increase \$16,704,934.49; 1922, increase \$8,215,589.83; 1923, increase \$6,093,317.21; 1924, increase \$5,139,362.40.

Uncontrollable charges (charges for public debt), including charges for the University of Alberta, had increased very largely during the past few years, and would continue to increase. The automatic increase in the railway indebtedness was now in the neighborhood of one million dollars a year, and this must be paid by new borrowings. In addition large advances have been made to the railways for re-conditioning.

COURSE ON BACON HOGS

On March 26th and 27th, at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Lacombe, a special course on bacon hogs will be held under the auspices of the Dominion Livestock Branch, Dominion Experimental Farm, Provincial Department of Agriculture and the Faculty of Agriculture of the University.

MOUNTAIN FREIGHT RATES

With reference to the resolution on transportation costs passed by the Annual Convention, which asked that freight rates on the Canadian National from Edmonton to New Westminster be adjusted in proportion to the cost of hauling, the secretary of the Board of Railway Commissioners has written to Miss F. Bateman, acting secretary of the U. F. A., as follows:

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 11th instant enclosing copy of resolution adopted at the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta, at its session last month, and hasten to assure you that the Board is in full sympathy with the object of the resolution.

"The Board took the initial step of obtaining an equality of freight rates involving, we hope, the removal of all mountain differential, but as our action has been held up by appeal in the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement matter we have to await its disposition until we know exactly where we stand. I feel confident that we will be able to attain the full object of your resolution, as well as more satisfactory freight rate conditions than have ever previously obtained, as soon as the ground is cleared and we are able to proceed with the work, knowing just what we have to meet.

"May I further say that the Board will welcome any further suggestion on the part of your organization at any time you may be good enough to favor us with the same."

"When a stupid man is doing something he is ashamed of, he always declares that it is his duty."—Bernard Shaw.

REDUCED PRICES FOR ORGANIZATION SONGS

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SENATE REFORM VERY REAL ISSUE TO FARMER, LABOR AND INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF COMMONS

(Continued from Page 10)

FARMER MEMBERS WILL PRESS FOR RURAL CREDITS

The Rural Credits proposition has not yet been discussed in the House. But there is apparently enough information now available through Dr. Tory's investigations and from other sources to justify going ahead with the scheme at this session. The Farmer members are anxious to obtain some workable system of Rural Credits and will leave no stone unturned to push it along.

The discussion of Mr. Good's resolution asking for the prohibition of race track gambling lasted throughout the day on Monday and until well after midnight. After the main motion had had considerable attention, an amendment was offered and carried, causing the Speaker's ruling to be challenged. Later an amendment to the amendment followed and was lost. Then, before the main motion was put as amended, another amendment was offered which the mover tried to withdraw, but was not permitted to by the seconder and the House, so it was put and lost, the House having divided four times, including the vote on the Speaker's ruling, in which he was sustained. The motion as amended was put and carried without division. Intense confusion existed until the matter was disposed of, the complication beginning at the time the first amendment was offered leaving the request for a very different form of legislation to that for which the original motion called.

A Treaty between Canada and the United States was approved. It was designed to prevent smuggling both ways across the border and prevent lawbreakers crossing the line either way to escape justice. It is designed to make extradition easier also. Mr. Bureau says he thinks it beyond human ingenuity to prevent smuggling altogether, that all he expects the Treaty to do is to reduce it to a minimum. He was asked to give us free trade. The request raised a laugh, but the Minister could not surrender so much revenue at the present time, although he thought it quite human to long for free trade.

There was a very interesting discussion regarding ocean freight rates on March 3rd. The move was apparently approved and justified by practically the whole House. There was a doubt in the mind of some as to whether the subsidy offered by the Government and the few ships it would control could accomplish the reduction, even if our whole merchant marine worked with the subsidized boats. The reason for this was the small amount of freight which could be handled. However, the discussion was not finished, and the matter is likely to go to a select committee to be put in shape for the House to finally pass on it. The Farmer members have not had anything to say on it yet, but are without doubt friendly to any reasonable practical scheme to reduce rates, and will not try to make political capital out of the subject when it comes back to the House in shape to be dealt with.

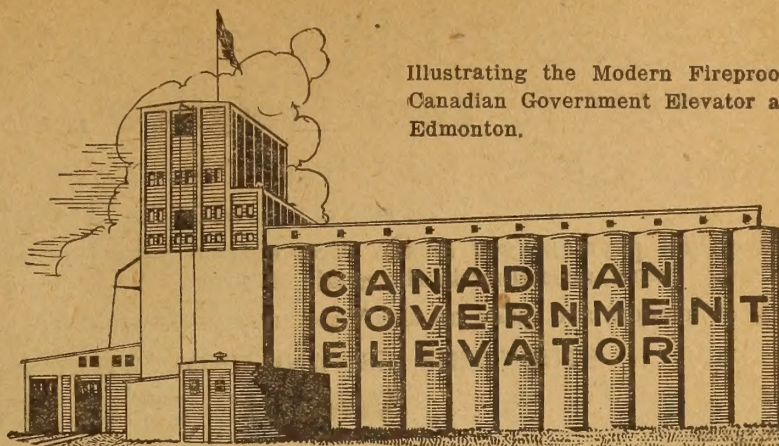
ASKS THAT PRIVATE CREDIT
CONTROL BE ENDED

Mr. Woodsworth's resolution asking that the issue of currency and the control of credit be taken out of the hands of private corporations was debated on March 4th. Though well championed by several Labor and Farmer members, and objected to just as energetically by others, there was no conclusion reached, because 6 o'clock cut off the debate and no night session, it being Wednesday. It is now uncertain when the question will come up again.

One outstanding feature of this session is that there has been better progress made than usual. Everyone seems to be anxious to get on with the work, but the main reason for the uncommon advance is that only one-third the time was spent in discussing the matter contained in the speech from the throne.

It is just as well, because every item will get its share of attention when it comes before the House in the regular way.

Please notify Central Office of any change in name or address of your Local Secretary.



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—why pay for a long freight haul on water, dirt and dockage?

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Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon or Moose Jaw

by shipping to the CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ELEVATOR at the nearest of these cities. You are then relieved of all responsibility for loss in weight or grade through leakage or damage in transit on the long rail haul from Interior Elevator to the Canadian Government Elevator, Port Arthur, and you

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because you pay freight only on clean marketable grain.

STORAGE
at 1/2c per bushel
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These are your own elevators—owned by the people of Canada. They are modern, fireproof structures, completely equipped for quick and efficient handling. Conveniently located for re-shipping.

Further information will gladly be furnished if you will address an inquiry to the Canadian Government Elevators at Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Calgary or Edmonton; or to the Head Office, 311 Grain Exchange, Fort William.

Say You Saw it in The "U.F.A."

Notice to Wheat Pool Members

What Is Your Freight Rate to Vancouver?

Initial Payment Price List No. 4 for "Street Wheat" 1924-25.
Effective March 16th, 1925.

The initial payment you should receive from your Elevator Agent on wagon load lots is listed below, according to the grade of your grain and your freight rate to Vancouver.

All settlements are made on the Vancouver basis whether your wheat is shipped East or West.

STUDY THIS LIST AND KNOW WHAT IS COMING TO YOU.

WAGON LOAD LOTS

VANCOUVER RATE	22½c	23½c 24c	24½c 25c	26c	27c	32c	35c	37c	39c	39½c
One Nor. -----	1.16½	1.15½	1.15	1.14	1.13½	1.10½	1.09	1.07½	1.06½	1.06
Two Nor. -----	1.13½	1.12½	1.12	1.11	1.10½	1.07½	1.06	1.04½	1.03½	1.03
Three Nor. -----	1.08½	1.07½	1.07	1.06	1.05½	1.02½	1.01	.99½	.98½	.98
No. 4 -----	1.00½	.99½	.99	.98	.97½	.94½	.93	.91½	.90½	.90
No. 5 -----	.93½	.92½	.92	.91	.90½	.87½	.86	.84½	.83½	.83
No. 6 -----	.87½	.86½	.86	.85	.84½	.81½	.80	.78½	.77½	.77
Feed Wheat -----	.81½	.80½	.80	.79	.78½	.75½	.74	.72½	.71½	.71
One Durum -----	1.08½	1.07½	1.07	1.06	1.05½	1.02½	1.01	.99½	.98½	.98
Two Durum -----	1.05½	1.04½	1.04	1.03	1.02½	.99½	.98	.96½	.95½	.95
Three Durum -----	1.00½	.99½	.99	.98	.97½	.94½	.93	.91½	.90½	.90
One Alta. Red -----	1.11½	1.10½	1.10	1.09	1.08½	1.05½	---	---	---	---
Two Alta. Red -----	1.08½	1.07½	1.07	1.06	1.05½	1.02½	---	---	---	---
Three Alta. Red -----	1.03½	1.02½	1.02	1.01	1.00½	.97½	---	---	---	---
Tough 1 Nor. -----	1.08½	1.07½	1.07	1.06	1.05½	1.02½	1.01	.99½	.98½	.98
Tough 2 Nor. -----	1.05½	1.04½	1.04	1.03	1.02½	.99½	.98	.96½	.95½	.95
Tough 3 Nor. -----	1.02½	1.01½	1.01	1.00	.99½	.96½	.95	.93½	.92½	.92
Tough No. 4 -----	.94½	.93½	.93	.92	.91½	.88½	.87	.85½	.84½	.84
Tough No. 5 -----	.87½	.86½	.86	.85	.84½	.81½	.80	.78½	.77½	.77
Tough No. 6 -----	.81½	.80½	.80	.79	.78½	.75½	.74	.72½	.71½	.71
Tough Feed -----	.74½	.73½	.73	.72	.71½	.68½	.67	.65½	.64½	.64
Rej. 1 Nor. -----	1.08½	1.07½	1.07	1.06	1.05½	1.02½	1.01	.99½	.98½	.98
Rej. 2 Nor. -----	1.05½	1.04½	1.04	1.03	1.02½	.99½	.98	.96½	.95½	.95
Rej. 3 Nor. -----	1.00½	.99½	.99	.98	.97½	.94½	.93	.91½	.90½	.90
Rej. No. 4 -----	.92½	.91½	.91	.90	.89½	.86½	.85	.83½	.82½	.82
Rej. No. 5 -----	.86½	.85½	.85	.84	.83½	.80½	.79	.77½	.76½	.76
Rej. No. 6 -----	.80½	.79½	.79	.78	.77½	.74½	.73	.71½	.70½	.70
Smutty 1 Nor. -----	1.06½	1.05½	1.05	1.04	1.03½	1.00½	.99	.97½	.96½	.96
Smutty 2 Nor. -----	1.03½	1.02½	1.02	1.01	1.00½	.97½	.96	.94½	.93½	.93
Smutty 3 Nor. -----	.98½	.97½	.97	.96	.95½	.92½	.91	.89½	.88½	.88
Smutty No. 4 -----	.90½	.89½	.89	.88	.87½	.84½	.83	.81½	.80½	.80
Smutty No. 5 -----	.84½	.83½	.83	.82	.81½	.78½	.77	.75½	.74½	.74
Smutty No. 6 -----	.78½	.77½	.77	.76	.75½	.72½	.71	.69½	.68½	.68

Tough Smutty 17c under Straight Grade.

Tough Rejected 15c under Straight Grade.

Damp Wheat 6c under Tough Grades.

To determine the net amount of your initial payment on

CAR LOAD LOTS

Deduct from the figures given below the amount of your freight per bushel and any charges you incur in loading, such as Elevator handling charge, 1½c per bushel, Elevator service charge, ¼c per bushel, demurrage, etc.

One Nor. -----	\$1.35	Tough 1 Nor. -----	\$1.27	No. 1 Alta. Red -----	\$1.30	Smutty 1 Nor. -----	\$1.25
Two Nor. -----	1.32	Tough 2 Nor. -----	1.24	No. 2 Alta. Red -----	1.27	Smutty 2 Nor. -----	1.22
Three Nor. -----	1.27	Tough 3 Nor. -----	1.21	No. 3 Alta. Red -----	1.22	Smutty 3 Nor. -----	1.17
No. 4 -----	1.20	Tough No. 4 -----	1.14			Smutty No. 4 -----	1.10
No. 5 -----	1.13	Tough No. 5 -----	1.07			Smutty No. 5 -----	1.04
No. 6 -----	1.07	Tough No. 6 -----	1.01			Smutty No. 6 -----	.98
Feed -----	1.01	Tough Feed -----	.94				
No. 1 Durum -----	\$1.27	Rej. 1 Nor. -----	\$1.27				
No. 2 Durum -----	1.24	Rej. 2 Nor. -----	1.24				
No. 3 Durum -----	1.19	Rej. 3 Nor. -----	1.19				
		Rej. No. 4 -----	1.12				
		Rej. No. 5 -----	1.06				
		Rej. No. 6 -----	1.00				

Tough Smutty 17c and Tough Rejected 15c under Straight Grades.

ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE WHEAT PRODUCERS LIMITED